

The MacArthur front

Our editorial in this issue on "An unbalanced strategy" sticks to the fundamentals in the dispute between General MacArthur and Washington on our foreign policy. Every day a new log is thrown on the fire of this unfortunate controversy. The biggest, and perhaps the most combustible, was Anthony Leviero's April 20 dispatch to the *New York Times* from the capital. Mr. Leviero, through the most unconventional cooperation of the Administration, was given access to documented sources on the October 15 meeting of President Truman and the General on Wake Island. As the dispatch showed MacArthur in a bad light, it was obviously meant to be a rejoinder to the General's address to Congress. Members of Congress were naturally irked to learn that a newspaper reporter was allowed to read what was denied them. The Pentagon soon announced that the documents would be shown to the Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees, which will open joint hearings on May 3 on the flamboyant "re-examination" of our strategy. The revelations will be made in executive session. Meanwhile the General seems to have tossed in a very green log of his own. Over the week-end following his appearance before Congress, the General's military secretary, Maj. Gen. Courtney Whitney, issued a statement saying the question of the intervention of the Red Chinese in Korea was "basically a political one . . . quite beyond the reach of General MacArthur's field intelligence." If so, the President must take responsibility. As several commentators have pointed out, however, the same rule applies to the possibility of Russian intervention if the MacArthur strategy were followed in Korea. Then why did the General presume to assure Congress that "the Soviet will not necessarily mesh its actions with our moves"? Isn't that, too, "basically a political" question?

Catholic press on MacArthur

We have made a quick check of positions taken by the Catholic weekly press, in their April 20 issues, on the dismissal of General MacArthur. Many of the diocesan papers published Rev. Patrick O'Connor's NC dispatch from Tokyo, as well as Louis Budenz's story that the Reds had been trying to "get" MacArthur for ten years. Fr. O'Connor described the General's defense of Christianity and the regrets of Christians over his removal. The *Commonweal*, a weekly review of opinion like *AMERICA*, takes a forthright position against MacArthur, whom it thinks "disastrously wrong," and in favor of the President: "We support the President wholeheartedly." The *Sun Herald*, Catholic daily published in Kansas City, was able to comment on the address before Congress, as nearly all of the diocesan papers, having gone to press, were not. The *Sun Herald* says the General, in his address, was either "guessing" or "exaggerating," and it will have no part of the risks he would take of "an endless and friendless war in Asia and a possible world conflict." The *Michigan Catholic*, eschewing the "purely polit-

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ical" issue of "Europe or Asia," upholds the President's authority: "President Truman has . . . acquitted himself with great courage." It thinks MacArthur should have resigned; instead he "precipitated the painful incident." The *Pittsburgh Catholic* (official), after a very calm canvass of the possibilities, asks: "Doesn't it seem reasonable, and Christian, to hold to the present policy so long as there is any possibility it will succeed?" The *Catholic Observer* (Pittsburgh) is intensely anti-MacArthur.

. . . variety of opinions

Five diocesan papers are definitely pro-MacArthur. The *Catholic Northwest Progress* (Seattle) defends him and even says the Catholic press "generally" does so. The *Tablet* (Brooklyn) runs the two NC dispatches and a "pro-Korea" editorial. The *Catholic Review* (Baltimore) speaks of the "Fabian phalanx" in Washington and our "ineffably stupid, if not impeachably traitorous," policy in Asia. The *Evangelist* (Albany) carries a very pro-MacArthur columnist, Richard Stokes, but editorially only condemns the partisan use made of the incident. The *Southern Cross* (San Diego) plumps for MacArthur against "the blunderers—the Achesons, the Lattimores, the Pressmans, the Jessups and the Marshalls." Some diocesan papers made no comment at all. Many others took an in-between position. The *Catholic Transcript* (Hartford) thinks the President had no choice but to dismiss the General, although the latter's policy is at least "clear-cut." The *Indiana Catholic and Record* deplores the "over-simplification" of issues and "hysterical outbursts." The *Catholic Telegraph-Register* (Cincinnati) can't see how anyone could reach a "settled conviction" at a "moment's notice." The *Union and Echo* (Buffalo), dealing only with Korea, not MacArthur, canvasses the "divergent views" very soberly. The *Catholic News* (New York) says very briefly that the General's dismissal "settled nothing," gave the Reds "great satisfaction," and hopes it will not lead to "appeasement." The *Tidings* (Los Angeles), somewhat pro-MacArthur, prays for a "reconsideration" of our policies. The *Providence Visitor*, objecting to misuse of the *Osservatore* comment, says only: "Disagreement among Catholics on worldly matters is inevitable." Though this sampling omits some important diocesan papers, it is quite representative of the variety of Catholic opinion.

Fakery in Congress

There is hope at last that the much-needed American grain for India will soon be on the high seas. On April 20 the Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved a \$190-million program of aid to the famine-threatened country on a half-loan, half-grant basis. The previous day the House, after its Rules Committee had pigeon-holed the bill for six weeks, agreed to clear for vote on the floor of the House its own version of a proposed \$190-million loan to the Indian Government. The Senate bill would make \$95 million immediately available to India for the purchase of one million tons of grain. Half the sum would be a grant and the rest a loan payable in dollars or strategic materials. On the same basis the Senate would make another \$95 million available for use during the year beginning July 1. Since the proposed House bill puts the program entirely on a loan basis, a Senate-House conference will have to adopt a satisfactory compromise, provided the respective bills pass in each chamber. We trust the conference will not be the occasion for renewed bickering. Too much time has already been lost and famine does not wait on legislation. The three months of quibbling over whether or not and how we should help India out of our surplus grain stocks has been ridiculous. It is even more so in the light of the current Truman-MacArthur fight now raging in Congress. Since MacArthur returned to the States, the executive branch of the Government has been accused by members of Congress of every political crime from jettisoning our interests in the Far East to outright aid and assistance to international communism. Yet the same indignant legislature has compromised a unique opportunity to strengthen our position *vis à vis* Soviet Russia in the Far East in the eyes of Asia's starving millions. This is nothing but sheer political fakery.

Labor up

In the second act of the great defense production tragedy entitled "Labor and Management Agree to Disagree," organized labor surprisingly shed the role of villain—which, by walking out on the defense agencies, it played in the first act—and emerged as something like the hero of the piece. Conversely, organized

management, represented by the National Association of Manufacturers and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, which has up till now been drawing rounds of applause from the galleries, suddenly found itself maneuvered into playing the part of unlovely obstructionist. Responsible for the shift in roles was President Truman's new seventeen-man National Advisory Board on Mobilization Policy. Quite clearly, this agency is destined from now on to play an authoritative part in the defense program. As its first task, the President tossed the Board the hitherto insoluble problem of breathing life into the moribund Wage Stabilization Board. After protracted negotiations Eric Johnston, director of Economic Stabilization, had narrowed the differences between labor and management to the single issue: should the new board have power to deal with all labor-management disputes, as did the National War Labor Board of World War II, or should it be restricted to disputes growing out of the application of defense wage policy? After pondering the argument the four members representing agriculture and the four members representing the public saw matters the labor way. They agreed that a reconstituted wage board should have authority to *recommend* to the President settlement of any dispute which "substantially threatens the progress of national defense." That gave labor a three-to-one majority—12 votes to 4—and left the management representatives isolated. President Truman promptly accepted the Advisory Board's solution and named Dr. George W. Taylor to head the new board.

. . . management down

Neither the NAM nor the Chamber of Commerce disguised their opposition to the settlement. They regarded it as subversive of the Taft-Hartley Act, inimical to real collective bargaining, and as doubtfully legal, since it did not result, as Title V of the Defense Production Act stipulates, from an agreement between representatives of labor and management. Nevertheless, they indicated that they would not follow the example of the United Labor Policy Committee and boycott the board. An industry spokesman did point out that organized management's acceptance of the decision under protest did not preclude the possibility that individual employers might challenge the new wage board's jurisdiction and refuse to appear before it. That employer reaction set the stage for the third act of the drama, which now shifts from the defense agencies to Congress. As the wage board, expanded now to eighteen members, digs into the pile of 300 cases which have accumulated since labor walked out on the old board last February 16, congressional committees will begin hearings on extending the Defense Production Act, due to expire June 30. Management will ask the legislators to write into law the restrictions it vainly urged before the President's Advisory Board. With the Republican-Southern Democrat coalition still riding high on Capitol Hill, it's possible, even probable, that the roles played by management and labor will again be reversed.

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Toying with a time bomb

To the labor-management impasse there remains one other possible solution: Congress may simply decide to let the price- and wage-control sections of the Defense Production Act expire. This possibility is admittedly slim, but it must not be entirely discounted. For the past several weeks, one of the most powerful economic groups in the country, the American Farm Bureau Federation, has been actively campaigning to get rid of price and wage controls. Congressmen from farm States, sensing a threat to parity prices in present controls, are receptive to this proposal. So are all those others who blindly resent the historical necessity which, diverting us from normal, peacetime ways, has forced us to undertake the Marshall Plan, the Atlantic Pact, the Korean war and the whole expensive mobilization program. To such men the argument that fiscal measures are adequate to control inflation is tremendously appealing. They can point to recent developments to buttress their case. Prices have clearly begun to level off. You hear talk today that prices may not go up much more than two per cent between now and the end of the year. At the very time stabilization authorities were announcing their plan to control industrial prices, New York department stores were advertising huge clearance sales. With inventories backing up all along the line, some plants have quietly gone on a three-day week and are laying men off. Furthermore, Federal revenues are running so far ahead of estimates that instead of a deficit in fiscal 1951 there will be a surplus of \$3 billion or so. And restrictions on consumer and housing credit are really beginning to hurt. The latest Chinese offensive may jolt Congress out of its over-confidence and its nostalgic longing for normalcy. As of today, however, those who appreciate the terrific inflationary potential in the defense effort have no reason to be complacent.

Medical care mix-up in Eire

Dr. Noel C. Browne, Ireland's turbulent, crusading Minister of Health, resigned on April 12. The episode is variously viewed as a question of medicine and politics (by the *Dublin Leader*), as a Roman Catholic threat (by the Protestant *Irish Times* of Dublin) and as a vindication of Catholic social teaching (by the *London Tablet*). Dr. Browne, a Clann na Poblachta Minister in the coalition Cabinet, was for implementing a provision of the Health Bill sponsored in 1947 by De Valera's Fianna Fáil Party. The measure provided universal free medical, dental and eye care, without any means test, for mothers and their children up to the age of sixteen. The Irish Medical Association was adamantly opposed. Indications of official Catholic disapproval moved Dr. Browne to ask the Hierarchy whether his Mother and Child scheme was "contrary to Catholic moral teaching." The bishops told him bluntly that it was, and listed their objections under seven heads. They found it a violation of the principle of subsidiarity, since

... in this particular scheme, the State arrogates

to itself a function and control, on a nation-wide basis, which ought properly to be, and actually can be, efficiently secured for the vast majority of citizens by individual initiative and by lawful associations.

The bishops voiced the general Irish desire for better medical care. They suggested the need of more hospitals, adequate maternity benefits and tax relief for large families. Clearly they were not disturbed by what in America is loosely called "socialized medicine." (Ireland has for years had its compulsory health insurance for low-income workers.) What they opposed was "state medicine," i.e., wholly free, government-controlled medical care, paid for entirely out of taxes, which might well infringe on the role of the Church as a teacher of morals in medical questions.

Bevan rebels

The resignation of Aneurin Bevan, Minister of Labor in the Attlee Cabinet, has much more significance, at least in the long run, for the Labor party than it has for the British people at large. For some weeks now it has been apparent that the Labor party, weakened by the death of Ernest Bevin and the illness of Sir Stafford Cripps, could not long survive the unpopularity of its rearmament program. All the recent polls indicate that if an election were held tomorrow, the Conservatives would wipe out Labor's five-vote majority in Parliament and return to power. It will not seem invidious to suggest that these earthy considerations, as well as the matters of principle which he raised, influenced Mr. Bevan to make the break now. He was pained, no doubt, by Labor's decision to subordinate social progress to rearmament. Very likely he sincerely believes that Britain cannot afford to spend £4.7 billion on arms over the next three years. Under other circumstances Mr. Bevan might have swallowed his disgruntlement and submitted to the majority policy. He has done so before. Now, with the Attlee regime doomed anyway, the fiery leader of the left wing apparently decided that the time had come to bid for control of the party machinery. Let the Conservatives run the unpopular rearmament program. After the storm had passed, Bevan would lead a triumphant Labor party back to the seat of power. In this analysis we may be wrong. If we are right, however, Bevan is gambling not only with his own career, but with the whole future of the Labor party. Like so many textbook Socialists, he is ready to risk the solid achievements of the Attlee regime for his own dubious and doctrinaire ideal. Only the understandable disaffection among British workers and the war-weariness of the British people make this dangerous challenge possible.

The exact reference for the excerpt from Cardinal Newman used last week (p. 90) is *The Idea of a University: Defined and Illustrated* (Longmans, 1902), Part Two, "In Occasional Lectures and Essays Addressed to the Members of the Catholic University," pp. 506-507.

WASHINGTON FRONT

There was a considerable flutter in both secular and religious newspaper offices when it was announced that in his column "Acta Diurna" (daily doings) the political commentator of the Vatican newspaper *Osservatore Romano* had defended President Truman and by implication had sided against General MacArthur in the famous debate. Catholic papers were quick to point out that, appearing in this guise, the column did not necessarily represent the views of the Holy Father, one way or the other.

A week later, however, the *Osservatore* returned to the question, this time in a front-page editorial by the veteran editor of the newspaper, Count Giuseppe dalla Torre himself, whose views command much greater attention than those of his columnist.

This observer has not yet seen the full text of this latter piece, as he did of the former one. But enough was told in an Associated Press dispatch to piece together the conclusion that dalla Torre had approached the matter from a different angle and one which should have much interest for Americans. This involves a distinction in our attitudes toward Soviet Russia which is sometimes obscured.

In reality, the free world, in facing the Soviets, has been confronted with two entirely different phases of their action: one on the ideological plane, that of Marxist-Leninist communism, and the other on the military and diplomatic plane, that of imperialist Russia. Count dalla Torre's editorial was apparently designed to recall attention to this most important distinction. General MacArthur, it said, had presented the military "global struggle" to Congress as the "war against communism," thus apparently confusing two things which should be separate. The "war against communism," declared the Count, "cannot be won with ammunition." It will be won, when it is won at all, in the minds and hearts of men. This is something which the Pope has not ceased to proclaim, and he must often wonder if the minds and hearts of the free world are prepared to engage in the struggle on this plane. He himself is peculiarly placed to lead the free world's struggle at this level.

On the other hand, there can be no doubt that Count dalla Torre acutely recognizes the other side of the problem. Yet, as AMERICA has already pointed out (4/21, p. 60), there may be a tendency, even in Catholic circles, to ignore the distinction by concentrating uniquely on the military side of the question. Thus, for instance, we may welcome the military assistance of Tito's dictatorship and ignore the fact that we are still "at war with communism" even as he preaches and practises it. To do this might be just as disastrous as the fusing of the two aspects which dalla Torre thinks MacArthur has done.

WILFRID PARSONS

UNDERSCORINGS

Interviewed by the Wheeling, W. Va., *News-Register* on the subject of betting, Most Rev. John J. Swint distinguished between commercial gambling and petty gambling for entertainment. The Catholic bishop declared:

When large sums of money are involved and especially if it is a question of risking money when a person has no right to risk, then gambling is sinful. . . . Again, if gambling is understood to mean commercial gambling or gambling as a business purely for the sake of making money, it is wrong and sinful. This is especially true when large sums of money are involved and particularly when the gambling is against the civil law or when dishonesty, racketeering and its attendant evils are involved.

The dishonesty that generally goes with gambling and the abuse of it are the "real problem" today. And that, Bishop Swint asserts, is the result of the "moral breakdown" following our neglect of religion.

► The State Department's Division of Public Affairs has formed a religious advisory panel to review its Voice of America and the Information and Educational Exchange programs. The panel is composed of Rev. Edward Hughes Pruden, President Truman's pastor, Isaac Franck of the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington and Msgr. Thomas J. McCarthy, Director of NCWC's Bureau of Information.

► By Presidential proclamation May 6-13 is National Family Week. "The Child"—the subject of the American Hierarchy's annual statement last November—will be the theme of Catholic observances, according to the Rev. Edgar Schmiedeler, O.S.B., Director of the NCWC Family Life Bureau. The National Council of Catholic Women has published program suggestions for the participation of its 7 million members in the various activities of the Week.

► The April 21 issue of the weekly *Information Service* of the Research Department of the National Council of Churches offers a fine survey of current developments in race relations. Price: 10¢. Address: 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

► The complete manuscript collection of the Vatican Library, comprising some ten million pages, will be micro-filmed by St. Louis University. The work will be completed in two years and access to material will then be available to scholars in the United States.

► A Pontifical High Mass was sung at Capetown by Cardinal de Gouveia, Archbishop of Lurengo Marques, on April 22 to celebrate the establishment of the Hierarchy in South Africa.

► The Blinded Veterans Association have chosen Boston as the site of their annual convention in August to honor their national chaplain, the Rev. Thomas J. Carroll of the Hub City.

E. D.

An unbalanced strategy

When General MacArthur delivered his eloquent address before the joint meeting of both houses of Congress on April 19, he opened with this plea:

I do not stand here as advocate for any partisan cause . . . I trust, therefore, that you will do me the justice of receiving that which I have to say as solely expressing the considered viewpoint of a fellow-American.

This was certainly the least the General could ask of a country he had always loyally, and through long periods even gloriously, served during fifty-two years in the United States Army.

From the point of view of the editors of AMERICA, it seems to us that our readers should also do us the justice of receiving what we have to say about the General's report in the same non-partisan spirit. Let us say immediately that here, as in most matters of public policy, we are not trying to express the views of anybody but ourselves. The only contribution we can make is to try to analyze the question, on which all our editors are agreed, in the light of the worldwide political, economic, social, military, moral and religious factors to which we devote, week by week, whatever abilities and knowledge we may possess.

1. General MacArthur argued that if we knocked out Red China, we would effectively thwart the threat of world communism. He did not show how this strategy would provide a defense for this country against Soviet Russia. We have ourselves published a great deal on communism in the Far East, and do not, we think, underestimate the importance of that vast area. But we cannot see, from what the General said, how Soviet Russia itself can be defeated in the Far East.

The fact remains that there are other areas whose importance must at least be discussed before a reasonable judgment can be rendered on the delicate balance of our foreign policy. The first of these is Western Europe. The nations of Western Europe, as Paul Hoffman, former administrator of the Marshall Plan, declared in Chicago on April 20, outproduce Russia in coal, steel and electrical power. At least since 1947, and even since 1940, our foreign policy, studiously designed after a careful canvass of all the areas of the world, has been hinged on Europe. We won a smashing victory in the last war by putting Europe first, over the objections, it will be recalled, of General MacArthur. We lost China after the war, partly through our own mismanagement, partly through the unmanageableness of that ocean of humanity.

Then there is the Middle East, the source of 75 per cent of the oil Europe needs and of 20 to 30 per cent of the oil this hemisphere uses. Anyone who reads the newspapers knows that Soviet Russia may try to pluck that prize any day now.

2. General MacArthur made no attempt whatsoever to prove that we could *at present* wage a full-scale war in both the Far East and in the European-Middle East theatre. Labeling as "defeatism" the opinions of

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those who think we cannot is hardly an argument. If we cannot, we must make a choice, and make it in full view of all the factors involved in both areas.

3. As for Korea itself, very great doubt exists, which he did nothing to dispel, that the steps the General suggests would bring the early "victory" there which he seemed to promise. His whole case depends on his statement: "and the Soviet will not necessarily mesh its actions with our moves" on the Korea front. That is the nub of the problem—not to expose ourselves anywhere to Russian intervention that will catch or throw us off balance.

If Russia has any sense it *would* "mesh its actions with our moves," though not "necessarily" in the Far East. If it did, the bottom would drop out of the MacArthur strategy, and of our whole strategy of national security.

"In war there is no substitute for victory." How true! But the Korean war, or even a full-scale Red Chinese war, is not the *real* war we must make sure to win. We might better pull out of Korea, were that necessary, than jeopardize our defense against our real enemy—the Soviet Union—who *cannot be defeated in Asia*. Of course, if he can, we are wrong.

As in the last war, if we can first take care of our major foe wherever he applies his full strength, we can thereafter take care of our lesser foe anytime we choose. The only fatal mistake we could make would be to try to reverse this strategy.

Something rotten among N. Y. publishers?

New York City is the publishing center of the United States. Perhaps it took the lead because the printing trades began to center there; perhaps because the greatest metropolis began naturally to mirror the diversity of race, creed and culture which a truly American literature makes its own.

Whatever the reason for its leadership, New York is the place where publishing houses ought to be the most catholic in the world, for their products go out to all the vast reaches of the United States; and the United State remains, to our glory, the great melting pot.

For some time, however, we have been troubled by a suspicion that some N. Y. publishers, though keeping up the appearance of being catholic, have been actually operating on an anti-Catholic bias. This suspicion—harbored reluctantly, let it be said—has received confirmation in three recent instances.

The most flagrant of these touches a man, eminent in the sales and promotion fields, who was dismissed by a major publisher on grounds that simply made no sense. Try as he would to be fair, the man could conceive no rational explanation for his being fired, save that he was a Catholic, and was known in the publishing trade to be one. He may have been wrong, of course, in his estimate of this situation, but he was not wrong when that same conclusion was forced on him later.

He applied for the same type of position at another major firm, which has long been eminent for its strong list of books of specific Catholic interest. He was informed that his application would not be considered, because the firm wanted to play down its Catholic titles. It feared that it was becoming known as a "Catholic" publisher. When he subsumed that he was applying for the job of promoting *all* the firm's books, Catholic and others alike, he was told that he still would not be considered, for the simple reason that he was a Catholic, and the firm did not care to hire "too many" of them.

This incident involves two major firms. The third firm comes into the unwholesome picture in a more indirect way. Its fear was that two very prominent Catholic books, best-seller successes, would give the firm a Catholic aura. Further Catholic titles would therefore be gracefully (?) rejected.

The hiring policy involved above is, incidentally, in direct violation of New York State laws. Unfortunately, the case will never come before the State Commission against Discrimination, because there were no witnesses present when the Catholic party was told that he was not wanted because of his religion.

This may sound all very cryptic to the general reader. The three publishing firms concerned will, we hope, recognize their lineaments in the cases outlined. If they do not, we shall be happy (though sad for such an occasion in a country that is becoming more and more aware of the real meaning of "democracy") to write to them individually. Meanwhile, it is, we hope, a public service to point out that surreptitious discrimination against Catholics and other religious groups is still possible in a democratic society. It's also heartening to know that there are Catholics in the United States who suffer proudly for the fact that they are Catholics.

Senator Vandenberg's greatness

Tributes to Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg (R., Mich.), who passed away in his sleep on April 18, were spread over sixteen pages of the *Congressional Record*. They attest to a bipartisan conviction that a truly great statesman had passed from the U. S. Senate.

Senator Vandenberg's claim to greatness rests upon a long succession of truly notable contributions packed into five critical years, from 1945 to 1950. If ever we win through to an enduring peace, we shall owe our good fortune in no small measure to the unremitting

and laborious statesmanship he lavished on its foundations.

That labor began with his celebrated Senate address of January 10, 1945. Convinced that "World War Number Three would open new laboratories of death too horrible to contemplate," he courageously renounced what he had called his "insulationism." He called for "maximum American cooperation to make the basic idea of Dumbarton Oaks [the proposed world-security organization] succeed." President Roosevelt promptly appointed him to the U. S. delegation to the San Francisco Conference on the UN Charter. On October 4, 1948, the Senator ascribed to "Republican initiative" what had been in reality his own personal accomplishments in 1945:

... the word "justice" never once appeared in the main body of the original draft. The idea of justice as the only basis of lasting peace was written into the Charter—and repeatedly—on Republican initiative.

But this was not all:

So was Article 14, without which the Charter would freeze a static world without hope of overtaking the mistakes of yesterday. So was Article 51, which makes possible effective "regional arrangements" which are of such vital current importance. . . .

The Senator early developed, and later sold to Secretary of State Byrnes, his "get tough with Russia" attitude. He told one of our editors that at San Francisco, where he engaged in an eight-day duel with Molotov over Article 14: "I pounded the table as hard as Molotov did, and he seemed to respect me for it."

As soon as it became clearly evident that the UN could not attain its collective-security purposes, the Senator devised his famous "Vandenberg Resolution" of June 11, 1948. When approved by the Senate by a decisive vote of 64-4, it paved the way for the Atlantic pact, which was signed just a year later.

Another contribution he made, again in line with his principle of "regional arrangements" as supplementary to the UN, was his support of the Rio Pact for Hemispheric Defense in 1947. Sumner Welles has credited him with "saving the inter-American system."

The bipartisan foreign program which has succeeded best—the Marshall Plan—owes a great deal to Senator Vandenberg. In the spring of 1948 the strongest opposition came from those who would not accept the Administration's proposal that it be administered by the Secretary of State, a political official whose economic wisdom Congress doubted. Vandenberg had the Brookings Institution devise the plan which Paul Hoffman, an exceptionally able businessman of "free enterprise" convictions, has administered with almost sensational success.

Arthur H. Vandenberg's patriotism, indeed, was heroic. He deferred too long, out of zeal for his country's welfare, submitting to surgery. Grieved as we are at the loss of this spirit who soared high above partisan considerations, we thank God for his greatness and pray for the repose of his great soul.

Letter to a prospective inductee

DEAR DAVE:

IT WAS GOOD TO HEAR FROM YOU AGAIN and to learn of the further progress of your energetic work among Catholic student groups. I was not surprised to read that you are expecting to be called up for military service soon, but your response to that call impressed me as remarkable. Most men would be worried about the possible hardships ahead, or about their physical safety. But your concern is about whether your Catholic faith—the pearl of great price—will be threatened. There is some foundation for that concern, since many men do give up the practice of the faith while in service, and many more fall into a state of habitual mortal sin. But that is by no means the whole story.

In advising you about the problems faced by Catholics in the armed forces and the ways of solving these problems, I am conscious that my own experience, as a naval officer for four years during the last war, is limited. But I have had opportunities to talk over these very questions with many other Catholic veterans. As a matter of fact there are twenty-four of us in this house now studying to be Jesuit priests. We are of one mind in thinking that military service is likely to make or break a Catholic.

At the time of their induction, practising Catholics fall into two general groups. A minority among them are already so alive to their religion that they put it above everything else in the world. This class, which I am sure includes yourself, will probably emerge stronger and better Catholics than before. Their faith will be purified by every period of darkness, loneliness and temptation.

The majority of young Catholics, however, are men who have not as yet made a clear-cut personal choice between Christian and worldly standards. They have never been forced to make real sacrifices for the faith, and have had far too little religious instruction. For members of this class, barracks life will be a grave spiritual danger.

The chief opposition to the faith of Catholics does not come in the form of direct attacks upon their beliefs. The normal non-Catholic, as you probably know, is uninformed and apathetic, rather than bigoted, in doctrinal matters. You must, of course, be able to give ready answers to his questions about birth control and divorce. You will have to explain to him why one religion is not as good as another and why Catholics are forbidden to attend Protestant worship. But once these difficulties have been disposed of, he will not press his objections much further. The religious cranks that you meet are more likely to be ex-Catholics who will insist on giving you a detailed recital of the inci-

Avery R. Dulles, Phi Beta Kappa prize essayist at Harvard, became a Catholic in 1940. A Testimonial to Grace (Sheed and Ward, 1946) is the story of his conversion. From four years' experience in the Navy, he discusses the problems of a Catholic in the armed services who wishes to live up to his religion. He is now at Woodstock College, a Jesuit seminary.

dents which, as they allege, drove them out of the Church. The sad truth in most cases is that they are trying to justify to themselves the sinful lives they are presently leading.

Catholics are not apt to be greatly disturbed by the objections of unbelievers unless their moral conduct has first been undermined. The great threat to religion, then, is the moral corruption which abounds in every barracks.

The day that a young man reports to his induction center, his ties with the past are suddenly severed. He is cut off from the refining influences of home and school, and from the pleasures and luxuries on which he has come to rely. Instead of being treated as a free and responsible being, he finds himself herded about in a way that leaves practically no room for individual preferences or personal privacy. Lonely and bewildered, he inevitably tends to conform to the pattern of the group. Especially if he is young, he will readily fall under the influence of those who seem to have "been around." Thus the pattern of the group is set by its most unprincipled members. The most popular recreation at the camp will probably be gambling with dice; comic books will be the favorite reading matter; pin-up girls the only form of art. From morning to night the new inductee will hear obscenity and oaths. When he is allowed off the station on "pass" he may be urged to take a prophylactic kit at the gate. Unless he has positive plans of his own, he will be taken in tow by his companions. After visiting a series of bars during the evening, the party will almost certainly end up at a brothel.

Of course drunkenness and impurity exist in many places besides the armed forces. But in the service the pressure is on for twenty-four hours a day, and escape is almost impossible. The young recruit who attempts to keep his conscience clean will be ridiculed by hardened boatswain's mates or sergeants who make open boast of their own immoral conduct. Heroism may well be required if a young man is to avoid turning his back on Christ.

I think I have not overpainted the difficulties. But happily there is another side of the picture. Through the grace of God, many thousands of young men surmount every obstacle and return from their military duty firmer and more zealous Christians than they ever were before.

Such success cannot be achieved by merely negative measures. Some negative resolutions, to be sure, are in order. You should decide in advance how many drinks you will allow yourself and how you will avoid occasions of impurity in speech and action. Also, it is

necessary to have some positive resolutions regarding such matters as prayer, frequent confession and Communion. But I think that the secret of victory consists less in specific resolutions than in a general attitude of mind which transforms every stumbling block into a stepping stone. You will notice that the man who has his eyes fixed on a definite goal within the service will sooner or later become attached to a "higher-class" outfit in which he is associated with other men of character and intelligence. So, too, the man who keeps his thoughts centered on Christ will control his environment rather than be controlled by it. He will attract others like himself, and will soon find many an occasion for doing something toward spreading the Kingdom of Christ.

Personally, I am convinced that there is hardly a mission field in the world that offers greater opportunities for the convinced American Catholic than the Army or Navy. In your new life you will soon find yourself bound to your comrades in arms by the ties of a common life, with common hardships and problems, common hopes and a common cause. Through continual contact you will get to know their inmost thoughts and feelings, and they will get to know yours, in a friendship far deeper than that which ordinarily grows up between mere business associates or social acquaintances. If you have your eyes open, you will become keenly aware of the vacuum in the hearts of your brothers who are not joined to Christ and His Church. They will be more influenced by your words and example than you can easily suspect. Through you they will discover that, for the man who treasures his union with Christ, life cannot lose its meaning and richness even under the most dreary circumstances. Almost without being aware of it, you will reveal to them a whole new set of ideals. Perhaps you will even be God's instrument in the conversion of some straying soul.

In talking with other veterans here at Woodstock, I find that most of them, like myself, regret that they were not more fully awake to the possibilities of doing good. For my own part, I am quite sure that I would have done better if, before entering the service, I had been offered the practical recommendations with which I shall conclude this letter.

1. Before induction, make every effort to deepen your spiritual foundation, and if possible make a retreat. Any retreat house will gladly make room for you if you tell them that you are about to enter the service. Rev. John W. Magan, S.J., has just opened the Gonzaga Retreat House at Monroe, N. Y., especially for pre-induction retreats. A card or letter to him at 24 W. 16th Street, New York 11, N. Y. would promptly bring you further information. If you cannot make a

retreat, be sure to call on your parish priest or college chaplain to get personal and detailed advice.

2. Get together a few essential articles of devotion—a good Missal, a New Testament, a prayer book and, of course, your rosary and Miraculous Medal. To satisfy inquirers you would do well to have on hand a book such as Father Bertrand Conway's *Question Box* (published in a cheap edition by the Paulist Press, 401 W. 59th Street, New York 19, N. Y.) or some similar book of replies to common difficulties which non-Catholics are apt to raise concerning the Church.

3. While in service plan to keep contact by letter with at least one priest, religious or Catholic teacher who is interested in your spiritual welfare and will be praying for you. The mere thought of that friendship will be a precious support when the going gets tough.

4. Arrange with your family or with some Catholic friends to keep sending you good pamphlets and a few subscriptions to the better Catholic periodicals. You will be surprised how anxious your fellow servicemen will be to read these. Any good literature will be of value on your station as a help to morale. The Catholic press has the added value of helping one discover some of the un-

suspected beauties of the faith.

5. At any station to which you are sent, make an effort to seek out other Catholics who are striving to be faithful to the Commandments. If you are a lone wolf, your influence will be greatly restricted. But "a brother supported by a brother is like a strong city." A team or "cell" of two or three men on fire with the love of God can not only keep each other out of trouble, but also, by skillful teamwork, change the whole atmosphere of a ship or barracks. Working with others, you can assist the Catholic chaplain, or in his absence pinch-hit for him, in countless ways. You can give friendly advice to weaker Catholics and see that they get to the sacraments. You can introduce healthy entertainment and good reading matter, or organize discussion groups. You can plan for Communion breakfasts and arrange for daily recitation of the rosary at the base chapel. I have even seen apostolic Catholics organize a floating Sodality of Our Lady on shipboard. And at an overseas naval station I once attended a thoroughly successful "parish mission."

6. Do not divorce your Catholic principles from your military duties. Your faith will not be a handicap but a singular help in making you a good soldier. Catholics who are at peace with God adjust themselves easily to the inconveniences and dangers of life in the service. They help everybody by their ability to keep a balanced outlook, and even a sense of humor, in trying situations. They obey with less diffi-



culty because they have learned to look upon their officers as holding authority from God in commanding all things except sin. When others are inclined to gripe or "gold-brick," Catholics can be counted on to do their job quietly and honestly. In short, being soldiers of Christ, the vocation of soldierhood comes easily to them.

7. Above all, have complete and joyful trust in

Freedom progresses in Colombia

Charles Henry Lee

SIMON BOLIVAR, LIBERATOR of the Spanish-American republics, forecasting the future political development of the new states, said that whereas Colombia was a university, Venezuela would always be a military barracks. His appraisal of these two countries has to a great extent been verified by history. Venezuela, like many of its sister republics, has been all too constantly dominated by military regimes. Colombia, on the contrary, despite periods of political backsliding, has on the whole shown a strong inclination toward law and order based on a deep respect for human dignity.

The source of Colombia's leaning toward law may perhaps be found in the very origin of the country. Thus Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada, founder in 1536 of Bogotá, Colombia's future capital, was not a mere soldier. He was also a lawyer, and this fact seems to have impressed itself so definitely on the Colombians that it has given rise to a traditional trait of character. While the liberators of the other Spanish-American colonies were predominantly warriors, Colombia produced Santander, who is known as the "man of the laws."

The Colombians' respect for law and justice can be seen today in the Haya de la Torre case, tried last November before the International Court of Justice at the Hague (AM. 12/9/50, p. 300). The issue was the right of Colombia to extend asylum to the most important political opponent of the present Peruvian military regime. Ideologically Haya de la Torre represents a sort of socialistic nationalism; his party has been accused of Communist leanings. The present Colombian regime, which is eminently conservative, not only opened the doors of its Embassy in Lima to this man but has defended its action before the World Court. As far as Colombia was concerned, a principle of international justice generally recognized in Spanish America was at stake and had to be supported.

Colombia has long been recognized as one of the most democratic of the American republics. When political observers have insisted that political democ-

God's loving providence over you. Though He may lead you into the shadow of death, He will not let a hair of your head be harmed without His permission. To the Army or Navy you may often seem to be just another serial number. But your guardian angel is close at hand, and Christ will be leading you closer to His Sacred Heart with every passing moment.

AVERY R. DULLES, S.J.

Mr. Lee is a Greenwich, Conn., attorney and businessman with long experience in Latin America. He has held various U.S. jobs there in diplomatic and commercial fields. Recently returned from a trip to Venezuela and Colombia, he writes a hopeful report on the latter, which, he says, "has long been recognized as one of the most democratic of the American republics."

racy as we understand it is not feasible in Latin America, Colombia has been exhibited as a vindication of the contrary opinion. Freedom of press and assembly has been consistently upheld. Elections have been relatively fair and free. The military have not played a dominant part in the country's development and have consistently refrained from interfering in politics. The Government has been unusually free from graft and corruption. Presidents have retired from office poorer than when they assumed it.

But what about the riots that broke out in April of 1948, when the Ninth Pan American Congress was meeting in Bogota? These followed the assassination of Jorge Eliecer Gaitán, demagogic leader of one of the groups in the Liberal party. They destroyed a substantial part of the city and set off similar movements throughout the country. All the Americas were shocked. The question uppermost in everyone's mind was whether this meant the end of Colombian political tranquillity and its replacement by the more common pattern of Latin-American government.

The fact was that the riots did not represent an organized effort by opposition elements to overthrow the existing Government. Rather, they seemed to reflect the weakness of the Government from a security standpoint. This was not a peculiar characteristic of the Conservative regime. It would have been the same if the Liberals had still been in power. The Presidency was not deemed to require the security precautions that are taken by most countries. Despite this situation, President Mariano Ospina Pérez demonstrated real courage, refused to resign, as some had suggested he should, and decided to see the country through the crisis.

Martial law was established and other repressive measures taken. This engendered a great deal of resentment. While visiting Colombia recently I sensed the general antipathy toward Dr. Pérez, who has now been out of office some six months and has been succeeded by Dr. Laureano Gómez, also a member of the Conservative party. However, this period of strong

government did not follow the pattern that is all too prevalent in other Latin-American countries. One Liberal who was persecuted by this regime described it to me as a judicial dictatorship.

In the last Presidential election the Liberals abstained from voting. Consequently, Dr. Gómez was unopposed. His record as an opposition Senator for more than a dozen years created for him the reputation of being an uncompromising, dictatorial individual, a friend of totalitarianism and a bitter enemy of the United States. The Liberals cordially detested him, and many friends of Colombia were seriously concerned when they learned of his election to the Presidency.

With this background in mind, it was very gratifying to observe upon visiting Colombia that Gómez has surprised even his staunchest admirers. He has shown a spirit of generosity towards his enemies that has created a most favorable atmosphere. The Cabinet is made up for the most part of a group of really capable men who enjoy general confidence. The chaotic political conditions and widespread killings that prevailed until Gómez took office have disappeared. Business confidence has returned and many new projects for commercial and industrial expansion are now being developed.

As far as international relations are concerned, no matter what Dr. Gómez' personal feelings may or may not have been in the past, Colombia has been cooperating loyally with the United Nations in the present crisis. A frigate and a thousand men have been made available for service in Korea. In the UN and in Pan-American gatherings the present Government is giving wholehearted cooperation and support to the United States.

It is true that press censorship still exists, that martial law is still in force and that Congress still remains suspended. Hence many liberals, particularly those outside Colombia, feel that conditions could not be worse. Upon closer inspection, however, the picture seems much more encouraging. The Government's position is that these measures are purely temporary, designed to counteract the chaotic conditions that prevailed and to restore order. Governments in many countries have adopted similar measures and given similar assurances—but the "temporary" measures have taken on a disconcerting permanence. In this case there would appear to be tangible evidence that the Colombian Government genuinely intends to carry out its expressed intentions.

The press censorship, for instance, is mild and overt. Newspapers appear with the notice that they are published under censorship. Opposition newspapers constantly criticize the Administration and its policies with a great deal of impunity. When the recent Inter-American Press Conference was held in New York, the Colombian newspapers gave full coverage to this meeting, although much was said against press controls and Colombia itself was directly criticized. As a mat-

ter of fact a strong speech by U. S. Assistant Secretary of State Edward Miller Jr., deploring censorship and press controls in Latin America and referring specifically to Colombia, was carried verbatim as an exclusive editorial by one of the leading opposition newspapers.

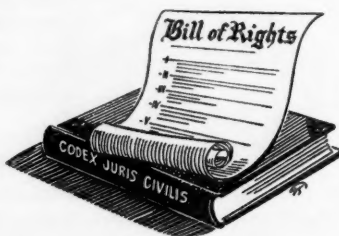
Martial law is still technically in force, but such manifestations as a curfew and large troop movements have completely disappeared. Congress is still suspended, but there is every indication that it will shortly be reopened. Two members of the Cabinet have resigned in order that they may run for the Senate in the forthcoming elections.

It would be untrue, and unfair to the opposition, to say that completely normal political conditions exist. It would be equally untrue, and unfair to the Government, to say that these controls are not becoming milder and that there does not appear to be a definite inclination on the part of the Government to abolish them completely in the very near future.

Another eloquent fact is the evident popularity of the regime with many Liberals. Liberals are being consulted concerning national problems and are collaborating on them with the Government. The Liberal party has expelled members for cooperation with the Government and has also instructed its adherents to abstain from voting in the coming congressional elections. However, prominent Liberals, such as Dr. Alfonso López, twice President of Colombia, and others, as well as a large number of party members, disagree with this policy. As a result it may be expected that there will not be full abstention, and that dissident Liberals will present their own slate of candidates. Moreover, Liberals are registering, in order to safeguard their right to vote.

In the general trend towards the right that has developed recently in such countries as Chile, Peru, Venezuela and Costa Rica, this shift has been all too frequently accompanied by curtailment of fundamental liberties and outright oppression of minorities. Colombia comes within the scope of this trend towards the right, but it is reassuring to observe that there is tangible evidence of gradual progress towards complete restoration of the liberty, justice and respect for the rights of individuals that have characterized Colombia in the past. If the promises that have been made by the present regime are carried out—and there is good reason to believe they will be—this should serve to reassure the Americas and the world generally that fundamental human rights are still respected by all Colombians.

From the days of Jiménez de Quesada and Santander this people has adhered to the principle of justice for all. In the Latin-American world, where many observers feel that political democracy has recently been losing ground, the importance of these principles and the need of Colombia's good example cannot be emphasized too strongly.



Quebec letter

This letter hopes to give a comprehensive view of the Canadian book world for 1950. However, there will also be a certain overlapping into 1951. The report, to be complete, will have to be along French as well as English lines.

Naturally enough, English Canadian readers have been reading the American best-sellers. This is inevitable, for American books always find a ready market to the north. England also sends over a steady supply of serious and popular reading. Canada herself does not produce sufficient popular books to satisfy Canadian needs.

Canadian authors like Bruce (*The Fraser*) Hutchison, Hugh MacLennan and Morley Callaghan have a popular style and a decided Canadian following. Recently a couple of other writers of no mean skill have appeared on the Canadian scene. George Boyle, a professor at St. Francis Xavier University (a famous co-operative centre) in Nova Scotia, has published three interesting books within the last couple of years. *Poor Man's Prayer* and *Democracy's Second Choice* are both about the cooperative movement. The author's 1951 *Pioneer in Purple* is a stirring biography of a famous Canadian bishop, Archbishop Neil McNeil. This book, delighting thousands of the older Canadian generation, is already headed for a second edition.

Along Catholic lines the past year has witnessed not only wider circulation and display of books, but also increased sales. English Canadians are really buying Catholic books. Books on the Mass and the Sacraments (especially matrimony) rate high. Knox' *The Mass in Slow Motion* has been a constant sell-out. The Bible, thanks to Msgr. Knox' translation, has had a big 1950 sale. The English editions of Gilson and Maritain have also sold extremely well. Professor Gilson has set up a permanent home in Toronto where he teaches philosophy at the Mediaeval Institute. Jacques Maritain is a regular visiting professor there.

General 1950 best-sellers were: *The Cardinal*, *Kontiki*, *The Way of Divine Love*, Waugh's *Helena*, Father Keller's works, Desmond Young's *Rommel*, Sheen's *Lift Up Your Hearts*. In popular demand were: Fry's *The Lady's Not for Burning*, Eliot's *Cocktail Party*, *Boswell's London Journal*, Greene's *Third Man*. Catholics also leaned heavily towards Fr. Martindale's *Meaning of Fatima*, O'Brien's *Where I Found Christ*, Buehrle's *Maria Goretti*, Sheed's *The Mary Book*.

While French Canada still remains a flourishing market for French imports, still, French Canadian authors are holding their own. Father Desmarais, O.P., has had a huge following for his pocket-book editions: *L'Amour à l'âge atomique* and *Le cœur et ses trésors*. These booklets have sold hundreds of thousands of copies. Grafton Gélinas' *Tit-Coq* has sold over 15,000 copies, a proportionally high figure for a Canadian play—as a matter of fact, something previously unheard of in Canada.

Yves Charron's *Marguerite Bourgeoys*, while no

LITERATURE AND ARTS

world-beater as books go, has been enjoying wide circulation since this Blessed's Holy Year beatification. *La petite poule d'eau* by Montreal's Gabrielle Roy had a successful sale but nothing like that of her first success *Bonheur d'occasion* (*The Tin Flute*). Quebec's Félix Leclerc remains enormously popular with his *Allegro*, *Adagio* and *Dialogues d'hommes et de bêtes*. Roger Lemelin's *Fantaisies sur les péchés capitaux*, very fine in parts and so-so in others, and *Au pied de la pente douce* were strong favorites. Savard's French Canadian classic, *Ménard, maître draveur*, still draws a lot of attention. Grignon's *Un homme et son péché* and Chanoine Groulx' *L'appel de la race* and *L'indépendance du Canada* had a brisk 1950 sale.

The best-selling French imports were: Berthe Bernage's series on *Brigitte*, immensely popular with the younger set; *Un rameau de la nuit*, a novel by Henri Bosco; *Michel Ange*, by Giovanni Papini; Daniel Rops' *Jésus en son temps* and *L'Eglise des temps barbares*; *A chaque jour suffit sa joie*, a spiritual thrust by Isabelle Rivière (sister of the famous Alain Fournier); and Van der Meersch's well-known *Corps et âme* and *Thérèse de l'Enfant Jésus*.

An interesting statistic recently released is that *Faites ça et vous vivez*, a low-priced harmonized version of the gospels, has sold in Canada up to 1951 over 785,000 copies. French Canadian exegetes are now preparing a new French translation of the gospels scheduled for publication this year. The new work will carry the old title: *Faites ça et vous vivez*.

The noticeable trend in the French Canadian book world has been the 1950 growth of children's libraries throughout French Quebec, particularly in the rural districts. They give evidence of new life among the young and presage much good. Most of these children's books are published in Canada.

There has been a similar trend elsewhere in the country. In general, the tendency has been more attentive library patronage and wider book circulation. Montreal's Public Library system, for example, boasted of a banner year in 1950 and already has plans afoot for several new establishments. I would conclude that Canada has become more book conscious this past year, a consoling conclusion, indeed, but I wonder what will happen when television gets here.

ANGUS J. MACDOUGALL

America balances the books

The scene across the world's borders

Slowly, with much hesitation and with many doubts, the United States adjusted herself to her new role as a leader in international affairs. A brief war with Spain at the turn of the century became a turning point of history; the United States emerged from the war a colonial power, a Far Eastern power, a big nation. Reluctantly did she abandon the role of observer of world events, although her new position compelled her to be a participant; although she assumed new and heavy commitments, she did not change her basic foreign policy of political isolationism.

A knowledge of our diplomatic relations since the turn of the century is imperative for an understanding of our conduct as world leader today. Some of the present confusion and many of our present policies are rooted in and conditioned by events of the past fifty years. The course of our diplomatic history of these years is ably and adequately given by Samuel Flagg Bemis in *The United States as a World Power* (Holt, \$5). This volume is the last section of his familiar and competent diplomatic history of the United States, revised and renamed, but it will serve the prescribed purpose well.

A knowledge of what has happened will not, however, suffice for a well-informed public. An understanding of how this nation administers foreign affairs is equally indispensable. Criticism of our conduct of international affairs is prolix enough but frequently confused and superficial. It is a complicated problem but not beyond comprehension. No better study of this problem has appeared than a volume recommended in the last balancing of the books, and it is here recommended again—*The Administration of American Foreign Affairs* (Knopf, \$5), by James McCamy.

The direction of international affairs depends in large part on decisions made in Washington, Moscow, and at Lake Success where the United Nations function. Washington, it is sometimes forgotten, has not the freedom of decision enjoyed by the Politburo, for the United States has linked her foreign policies with the United Nations, and the member nations of this organization have their own interests to consult and do not relish the role of the Vicar of Bray.

What the UN is, what its objectives are, how it achieves these objectives, how it is defective in preventing war, why it lacks coercive power, how it can promote social welfare, are all explained in *The United Nations in Action* (McGraw-Hill, \$4.50), by Eugene P. Chase. The book was prepared before the Korean aggression, and so the efforts to strengthen the Assembly as an instrument of peace were not considered. The UN is the only world political organization we have, and the recent statement of Pius XII in favor of a world federation of nations should tend to make us study more closely its functions and structure.

The reason for the failure of the UN as an instrument of peace and the reason for the presence of war clouds over the world is the same: Soviet Russia. It has taken a long time, but the real source of danger has been recognized and the fog clouding so many minds is lifting.

RUSSIA: ENIGMA AND THREAT

The change is seen in the book market: a preoccupation with Russia and more intelligent writing on Russia. Some on the top of the list are here recommended. The United States has had, despite its passive role before emerging as a world power, ideological and diplomatic influence on Russia. How extensive this influence was and who contributed most has been told by Max M. Laserson in *The American Impact on Russia, 1784-1917* (Macmillan, \$5). This is not, however, entirely pioneer work, for Frank Golder and others have previously grubbed this terrain.

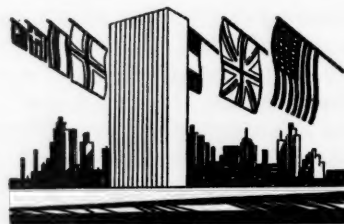
The political systems and thought of the two countries were poles apart, yet diplomatic relations were always friendly, and the test of friendship was passed when Russia accepted the United States as mediator in the Russo-Japanese War. (Moscow, too, has been studying Czarist relations with America, and has discovered that the sale of Alaska in 1867 was really another Yalta, with Russia the victim. William F. Seward was much more successful in his talks with Russia than our recent Secretaries of State.) It would, however, be misleading and harmful to overdraw lessons from our experiences with Russia prior to 1917. The

Time for another review of the reviews rolls around, and AMERICA is happy to give your reading machine a little Spring service. Most of the books reviewed in this roundup have been evaluated in our review columns during the past half-year. Some others have been added and the whole will enable you, we hope, to fill in any lacunae in your reading or your library.

Russian people may not have changed very much; the Russian government under Lenin and Stalin has.

Although Prof. David J. Dallin in *The New Soviet Empire* (Yale, \$3.75) is inclined to overwork the similarities between Czarist and Soviet Russia, Americans, including the top officials of the Administration, will find valuable directions in formulating the policy capable of meeting the challenge of communism. Dallin insists that though our policy must be anti-Communist, it must not be anti-Russian. Our policy must not be tainted with any racism that considers the Russians a low type of human who do not really mind and actually need the prison methods of a totalitarian state.

Boris Shub repeats Dallin's warning that any policy of the West based on ignorance of the Russian people is doomed to failure in the pages of *The Choice* (Duell, Sloan & Pearce, \$2.75). Both these books are directed at the State Department and both authors have had sufficient contact with the Russian mind to demand an audience. Hitler, by his contempt for the Slavs born of racism and by his brutal methods begotten by totalitarianism, converted the Russians into fearless defenders of the Russian soil and consequently of atheistic communism and of Stalin. We must make it clear that the Russians, the Poles and all the other nationalities under the heel of communism have our support and that their liberation is our objective and that we count on them as allies in this struggle.



Convincing the Russian people that Americans are their friends will not be easy sailing. Do they resist, and if so, how long can they resist the unremitting Soviet propaganda that Americans are war-mongering, fascist beasts seeking whom they can devour? To appreciate the power of propaganda, we need only recall from our history how a war hysteria, created by jingo-

ists and an irresponsible press, resulted in a war with Spain over Cuba.

Frederick C. Barghoorn's carefully detailed study of the Soviet propaganda machine, *The Soviet Image of the United States: A Study in Distortion* (Harcourt, Brace, \$4), is saddening information. Barghoorn points out that the Soviet picture of the United States is in fact the image of Soviet communism, and those who listened to Kremlin propaganda during the debates in the Security Council over Korea will agree.

The value of studies like this is obvious. The information program of the State Department must convincingly answer this propaganda, and so the first task is to understand the propaganda. It is, then, encouraging to note that a commission of private experts recently reported that the program called the "Campaign of Truth" has improved; and the refugees from beyond the Iron Curtain would seem to indicate that the victims of Soviet propaganda have not lost all power of resistance.

The evidence that Soviet communism is essentially evil and dedicated to a war on God and the dignity of the human person is mounting. Its insidious attacks on God and religion, its method of "cooperating" with the Church as a prelude to submission or strangulation, its incompatibility with Christianity, have been exposed in two works.

THE WAR ON RELIGION

Our leaders have been slow to see how the freedom of man was imperiled by this war on religion. Their thinking reflected a state of mind preoccupied with the mistaken notion that the conflict between the West and the East was between two competing economic systems, an indifference to the spiritual, and something more than indifference to the Catholic religion which was the first and vital victim.

Camille M. Cianfarra reports from his vantage point as the New York *Times* Vatican correspondent on the war of communism against Catholicism in *The Vatican and the Kremlin* (Dutton, \$3). This is the report of a journalist, but of an experienced journalist with access to sources and one aware that Nazi brutality had come so close to destroying the Church in Poland that the Soviet *coup de grâce* was relatively easy. J. B. Barron and H. M. Waddams have edited for the British Council of Churches a collection of documents expressing the official attitude of Communist governments toward the churches. It is *Communism and the Churches* (Morehouse-Gorham, \$1.25). This is a handy collection, if one remembers, of course, that

communism, with its own language, is careful not to reveal its mind to the "dupes" of capitalism, and that the Communists' real intent is known by their deeds. One wonders if the voice of the West, in its efforts to counteract Soviet propaganda and to strengthen the resistance of the victims behind the Iron Curtain, clearly and sincerely expresses concern over the destruction of religion in Eastern Europe and gives assurances that religion will be liberated.

Two escapees from concentration camps have related their experiences under nazism and communism and thereby tell us how the totalitarian State "respects" the dignity of the human person and crushes the individual who objects, or is suspected of objecting, to being dehumanized and mechanized. The reading of an authentic and detailed account of life in a Nazi or Soviet concentration camp is a speedy and effective way of grasping what the West is fighting for and against.

The minds that have planned and executed that system of the concentration camps have been in contact

FIVE CHOICE SELECTIONS

The United States as a World Power, by Samuel F. Bemis

The New Soviet Empire, by David J. Dallin

The Soviet Union: Background, Ideology, Reality, edited by Waldemar Gurian

The Vatican and the Kremlin, by Camille M. Cianfarra

Policy for the West, by Barbara Ward

with the powers of darkness, and Eugene Kogon has aptly called the record of his experiences *The Theory and Practice of Hell* (Farrar, Strauss, \$3.75). He relates his experiences of seven years in a quiet manner, his credibility is supported by other independent witnesses who also fortunately survived, and his observations are more recent than those of other witnesses.

Under Two Dictators (Dodd, Mead, \$4) points up the lesson that it does not pay to seek a haven with the Soviets. Margaret Buber and her husband, a German Communist leader, sought safety in Russia from Hitler, and although they escaped his immediate wrath, they did not escape the suspicion of the Communists. Buber disappeared and Margaret was committed to prison, then to a camp

in Karaganda and later, after the pact between the two totalitarians, was returned to Germany and the Nazi camps. The camp system is devised to dehumanize man and great must be the graces God gives to those who do not succumb. Buber and Kogon are not isolated cases; millions of humans have been and still are subject to the system.

One final recommendation on Soviet Russia. It is a phenomenon nowadays when a symposium lives up to its name and really is a conversational feast. Waldemar Gurian gathered a group of experts on Russia and Eastern Europe at Notre Dame and has edited their papers under the title *The Soviet Union: Background, Ideology, Reality* (University of Notre Dame, \$3.50). The volume will give the reader sound and clear views on the development of the regime since 1917, on the difference between thought control under the Czars and Stalin, on Soviet policies in Eastern Europe, on the Soviet system of terrorism, and on religion in Russia since 1940.

Most of the books so far mentioned make substantial contributions to a sound and comprehensive policy of the West in the struggle against communism. That policy must consider all the forces and factors at work in the relations of nations. It must be a long-ranged policy, for the struggle will not pass quickly and quietly. It can not be made in Washington without consulting the interests and the statesmen of other nations allied with the United States.

WESTERN POLICY

Two authors are explicitly concerned with this policy, one an American and the other British. Edgar Ansel Mowrer makes his contribution in *Challenge and Decision* (McGraw-Hill, \$3.75). He sees and recognizes that communism and the Soviet Union are the great challenge to the American way of life and to Western civilization, and he asserts that the Soviet Union has been aided in achieving its present position of power and menace by the incompetency and blunders of our diplomacy.

Yet Mowrer finds it's easier to describe the challenge and to condemn the efforts made to date to meet that challenge than to formulate the master policy. He advocates the conversion of the United Nations into a federation of non-Communist nations, but this, of course, is no answer to the present danger. He calls for a powerful Peace Coalition which, it would seem, these very nations are forming, for what is the Atlantic Pact if not a Peace Coalition? Strength, military strength, is a necessity of the program,

but unless we have more confidence than Mowrer in the possibility of an acceptable but peaceful solution through diplomacy, then total war is the only policy.

The West must come up with and agree on a grand design, viable and durable, that aims at and achieves strength and stability, according to Barbara Ward in *Policy for the West* (Norton, \$3.75). The best of plans will fail unless there is cooperation among the non-Communist nations, and cooperation comes only after there is an exchange of ideas and an understanding of the interests of all concerned.

Miss Ward sees the whole and the parts as well as any one, while giving a British view on some of the parts. She gives, for instance, a thorough analysis of the British view on China. She knows what communism is, and she knows how communism cleverly uses the hunger for land and other economic reforms as the open door to impose its system, as in China. She knows that political decisions are of prior importance, but that they are not decisive unless implemented by economic action. She knows that the issue is basically spiritual and pleads for the application of the dynamic doctrines of our Judaeo-Christian civilization.

Time can be in the favor of the West. Communism is convinced that time and history are working for them in some inevitable way. That conviction could be their undoing. The West knows that man is not a machine and knows that man, under God, determines the course of history. No writer can devise the grand plan alone and unaided; but some can make better contributions than others. Barbara Ward has a better contribution than Mowrer; it is more balanced and comprehensive and more hopeful without being utopian.

A better understanding of England today should result from a reading of *British Politics since 1900* (Oxford, \$3.75), by D. C. Somervell. It is not a deep and penetrating study by any means, but the main currents of twentieth-century British political history are reported and the important figures of British party politics are limned.

Much space has been given to the Soviet Union and to communism. There is the source of danger and there our attention should be concentrated. That means, however, much less space and attention to other areas and problems in the international scene.

Captain B. H. Liddel has studied the strategy and conduct of the last war in *Defense of the West* (Morrow, \$4). He is a military critic of reputa-

tion and deserves attention. But the lessons he draws from the serious mistakes made in defeating the enemy are primarily for the present and future military leaders, and it is questionable how seriously they take their critics.

THE SCENE SOUTH AND EAST

The tendency to muster all the Latin American nations together as if they lacked the characteristics and aspirations of other nationalities can explain some of the blunders in the history of Inter-American relations. Still, a basic policy for a region is common and sound enough, and the United States has gradually evolved a policy for the nations south of us.

The development of that basic policy was retarded and confused by our *modus operandi* in the Caribbean after the Spanish-American War. This resulted in many interventions and controversies. In *The Evolution of Our Latin American Policy: A Documentary Record* (Columbia University, \$12.50), James W. Ganterbein has compiled a collection of materials on the development of that basic policy into the Inter-American movement and on the problems and interventions in the Caribbean area. It is a work of special value for the students of Latin-American history and Inter-American relations.

Santha Rama Rau, niece of Sir Benegal N. Rau, head of the Indian delegation to the UN, interprets for the benefit of the English-speaking peoples the aspirations and wants of the Asiatics. Great and many though their wants are, our customs and our

comforts are not among them; they have their customs and ways of life. Among their aspirations is independence, and that is the theme of *East is Home* (Harper, \$3).

Many Americans are unaware that the United States helped to cast Korea into the international scene back in 1882 when a treaty was negotiated by a U. S. naval officer. It was the first treaty with a Western nation. Korea had been known as the Hermit Kingdom; she remained just that to many Americans. But first China and Japan, then Japan and Russia went to war over the peninsula, and now the whole world is involved. A helpful study of the political, cultural and religious history of the Koreans will be found in *Koreans and Their Culture* (Ronald, \$5), by Cornelius B. Osgood. A resume of events from 1945 to the Chinese intervention last November completes the volume.

Beginnings of Political Democracy in Japan (Johns Hopkins, \$3.50), by Nobutaka Ike, is not a study of Japanese response to the American occupation program, but rather a scholarly and helpful investigation of the trend during the years 1875-1890 towards responsible and representative government and how the trend was smothered by the sudden emergence of Japan as an industrial and expanding power. It will help, however, in understanding the response and advance of Japan towards economic health and political maturity since the war, as told by Robert A. Fearey in *Occupation of Japan; Second Phase: 1948-1950* (Macmillan, \$3).

WILLIAM L. LUCEY

Problems and solutions on the home front

One of the burning questions of the hour is how to reconcile an effective program of security with an effective preservation of civil and personal liberties. The need for both security and liberty is obvious, as we can tell especially from reading works particularly concerned with one or the other. For example, Alistair Cooke's *Generation on Trial: U.S.A. vs. Alger Hiss* (Knopf, \$3.50), a tense representation of the Hiss trial, makes us wonder how many other Hiss-like Americans are among us, convinces us of the need for measures of vigilance and security. Even more exciting is *Red Masquerade* (Lippincott, \$3), by Angela Calomiris, whose story of her own exposed years as an F.B.I. agent posing as a Communist among Communists is nothing short of heroic. Her dedication to her dangerous work has placed all Americans in her debt, and most Americans ought to read her

book not merely in gratitude but to learn the extent of the danger about us.

On the other hand, security comes at high cost—as those concerned about our liberties hasten to indicate. The very machinery for tracking down spies and fifth-columnists can easily be turned against the innocent, and in times of mob hysteria many an innocent one can be made to appear guilty.

Rather an extremist defender of this position is Carey McWilliams in his *The Witch Hunt* (Little, Brown, \$3.50). Here we find a shrewdly documented exposé of similarities between the methods of ferreting out and investigating heretics through history and the procedures of current loyalty investigations. The author's lesson is important, but his extreme one-sidedness and restricted vision detract seriously from its value.

Far more objective and dispassion-

ate is Alan Barth's *The Loyalty of Free Men* (Viking, \$3), which recognizes Stalin's imperial aims and American Communists' service of Stalin for the evils they are. But Barth denies that America's fifth column is important enough to warrant the liberty-endangering methods of our various investigations and loyalty-oaths. Of the two, Barth's book serves a quite better purpose than does McWilliams'.

Mention of investigations reminds us of the FBI, an agency whose present work extends far beyond its original commitments. Max Lowenthal uses that fact as the basis of his thesis in *Federal Bureau of Investigation* (Sloane, \$4.50), namely, that the FBI has today become a dangerous power. He tells the Bureau's history from 1908 (unfortunately spending most of his book on its first sixteen years), approves its law-enforcement activities, but expresses fear at its investigatory functions. Hence he wants to curtail its operations, appropriations, and safeguards of secrecy. His portrayal of Bureau Chief Hoover is rather cheap and unfair. Lack of a broader appreciation and objectivity robs this book of very much of its value.

On the same problem, but in a more theoretical vein, is Harold D. Lasswell's *National Security and Individual Freedom* (McGraw-Hill, \$3.50), which examines, not too specifically or contemporaneously, the concepts of civilian supremacy, freedom of information, civil liberties and a free economy. A very serviceable book pertinent to this subject is *Civil Rights in the United States* (Central, \$4.50), by Alison Reppy, Dean of N.Y.U.'s Law School, which covers Supreme Court decisions from 1948 to 1950 on the wide field of human rights. Though the short time covered may disappoint some who are looking for a definitive work on this problem of security and personal rights as viewed by the Court, nevertheless Dean Reppy includes a wide variety: personal rights in the armed services, in international war-crimes trials, in prosecuting Communists under Taft-Hartley, in use of extradition, in the disturbances of sound-trucks, and, of course, in belonging to a minority racial group. Perhaps a bit dry, perhaps a bit unsatisfactory to some specialists, but recommended to all others.

Walter Gellhorn's *Security, Loyalty and Science* (Cornell, \$3) is an excellent book on the same problem, but particularly from the viewpoint of its impact on scientific progress. Its thesis, well supported by argument and evidence, is that science can't prosper under the secrecy which security demands, and that secrecy itself can't be achieved in the measure needed by security.

SCIENCE, POLITICS, RELIGION

Moving on now to more general problems that beset men's minds, we find several good books either recording our confusion in trying to understand life, or offering theories of life which make sense—at least to the authors. First on the list is the published symposium *Perspective on a Troubled Decade: Science, Philosophy and Religion, 1939-1949* (Harper, \$5.50), edited by Lyman Bryson, Louis Finkelstein and R. M. MacIver. The book is a compilation of papers summarizing the decade of discussions engaged in by a fairly large group of intellectually capable and honestly sincere men anxious to understand and establish fundamental values in a world of uncertainty. It is recommended for all who want to know what leading thinkers are thinking, and how they address themselves to the problems that face us all. Several Catholics are among the contributors.



More than a decade is covered by the talks given in 1949 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology by many world-famous intellectual leaders. *Mid-Century. The Social Implications of Scientific Progress* (Technological Press of M.I.T. and John Wiley, \$7.50), edited by M.I.T.'s Dean of Humanities, John Ely Burchard, parades the quite varied philosophies of men who can seek the salvation of the world in science. Some make you want to cheer, others send a chill down your spine. Has man been getting any better over the ages, some want to know. Why not? We need more technological advance, explains Vannevar Bush. We must control the population, pleads demography expert F. W. Notestein. Jacques Maritain proposes the need for recognizing the truth and pertinence of the supernatural; his critics can't be bothered with something which can't be seen or felt. These last two books are valuable for assessing the minds of our fellows, who are trying to understand our world and make it better. A Catholic will grow more humbly grateful than ever for the gift of faith.

Political ideas and ideals have occasioned much thought of late. *Main Currents in Modern Political Thought* (Holt, \$6.75), by John H. Halliwell,

provides a Christian analysis of the underlying philosophical and theological assumptions of history's important writers on the theory of the state. The book is very well arranged, includes authoritative commentaries, and belongs in every library of political theory and philosophy.

A rather unexpected, and quite disappointing book has come to us from Clarence Manion, Dean of Notre Dame's Law School: *The Key to Peace* (Heritage Foundation, \$2). It is most difficult to avoid the conclusion that the author, in explaining the political philosophy behind American government, has espoused the interpretation of individualism, pessimism and negativism.

More encouraging, perhaps not oddly to those who know him, is Norman Thomas' *A Socialist's Faith* (Norton, \$4), in which the six-times Socialist candidate for President re-examines his beliefs after forty years. Mr. Thomas sees socialism as the normal outgrowth of democracy, despises communism as a betrayal of socialism, definitely believes personal liberty is compatible with socialism. The grand old warrior feels rather frustrated after so many years of disillusionment, but still pronounces peace, freedom and plenty as his goals and socialism as the way to achieve them. Most readers will find it hard to reconcile what Thomas writes with what socialism is usually thought to be. Or maybe the old Socialist campaigner isn't quite the Socialist he is thought to be.

EDUCATION'S ACHES AND PAINS

We can't leave the arena of thought without visiting the classroom. Several books on education will interest our readers. We can start with the black and the white of the matter: the expected, quite naively secularist *Education and Morals* (Appleton-Century-Crofts, \$2.75), an "experimentalist philosophy of education," by John L. Childs; and the uplifting, frankly and intelligently religious interpretation of true education by Howard Lowry in *The Mind's Adventure* (Westminster, \$2.50). Dr. Childs' book gives us nothing new, makes us wonder again when the learned professor will learn that human beings in the aggregate will not be interested in being good just for the sake of being good. Doctor Lowry, a non-Catholic, has a valuable message for all educators, and Catholics should be both stimulated and encouraged by the urgency of the message.

Two other interesting books which are, respectively, rather gray and white, are Theodore Brameld's *Patterns of Educational Philosophy: A Democratic Interpretation* (World

Book. \$5) and John J. Ryan's *Beyond Humanism* (Sheed & Ward. \$3). The first would rest comfortably on a shelf next to Dr. Childs' book, except that Dr. Brameld makes a sincere effort to understand philosophies of education different from his own, though he shows himself the victim of a good deal of inadequate information, not to say of gross misinformation. He himself advances "reconstructionism," which is supposed to be an improvement over "progressivism," but is quite as experimental and naturalistic. In *Beyond Humanism* we have a frank recognition of the primary role of the supernatural as the aim of our education. That is Mr. Ryan's answer to the perennial problem: should Catholic schools teach subjects the same way as anybody else, or should they teach them Catholic-wise. Catholic educators, and indeed anyone interested in education, will be definitely interested in Mr. Ryan's thesis.

Dr. James B. Conant provides a valuable book which concerns teachers: *Science and Common Sense* (Yale. \$4). The author admits scientific apparatus and research abound in our midst, but denies that science is part of our culture. He would have all educated people trained to appreciate science and scientific methods even if they are not scientifically inclined. The case histories of great scientists, the

THE FIVE AT THE TOP

Beyond Humanism, by John J. Ryan

Crime on the Labor Front, by Malcolm Johnson

The 1950's Come First, by Edwin G. Nourse

A Philosophy of Labor, by Frank Tannenbaum

Red Masquerade, by Angela Calomiris

scientific way of considering the ordinary things of our daily experience should be included in all adequate education. Few of us who feel lost in the presence of the simplest mechanical operations would disagree.

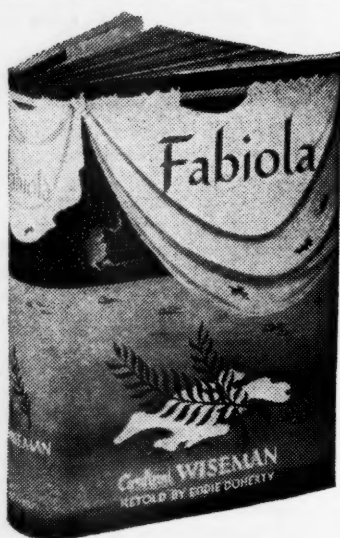
CRIME AND THE COURTS

I'm not sure why, but education leads to the topic of crime—at least it does in this survey. The most interesting book in the field is Donald P. Wilson's *My Six Convicts* (Rinehart. \$3.50), in which the author-psychologist reports on his three-year stay in Fort Leavenworth Penitentiary where he studied the mentality and attitudes of several prisoners, particularly with regard to the influence of drug addiction on criminality. The

professor shows sympathetic understanding and warm insight, and rewards the reader with a good look at penal policy and criminal psychology.

Hastening along, we can only mention a couple of excellent works on crime and juvenile delinquency. The first is *Unraveling Juvenile Delinquency* (Commonwealth. \$5), by those two masters in this subject, Drs. Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck. They make a controlled study of 500 delinquent and 500 nondelinquent juveniles from similar environments, and seek to find the underlying causes for delinquency. Their research explodes a few myths, certainly recommends itself to anyone concerned with guidance of youth, community centers, youth psychologists, etc. Two competent authors have published studies of the crime problem that will be used in many schools. They are *Crime Problem* (Appleton. \$4.25), by Walter Reckless; and *Criminology: A Cultural Interpretation* (Macmillan. \$5.50), a revised edition of his 1942 book by Donald Taft.

Crime reminds of courts, but not too much was published about the legal world recently. We have already noted *Civil Rights in the United States*. Perhaps a good introduction to that volume would be Samuel Hendel's *Charles Evans Hughes and the Supreme Court* (King's Crown Press.



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\$4.50), which studies Hughes' work on the Court both before his Presidential campaign in 1916 and as Chief Justice later. The author takes us beyond Hughes' retirement to the present, and indicates the development of constitutional trends. The study is not profound, but will serve as a good introduction to modern Court history. Charlotte Williams' *Hugo Black; a Study in the Judicial Process* (Johns Hopkins. \$3.50) doesn't quite live up to its title, but it does give us some outside-looking-in views of one of the nation's judicial nine.

A particularly good study of one aspect of our law has been written by a refugee, Alexander H. Pekelis, in *Law and Social Action* (New School and Cornell. \$3.50). The author gives us a discerning appraisal of some advantages of our legal system over those of some European countries. In particular he points to the excessive individualism and legalism of the latter, as contrasted with the discretion permitted the American judge in certain cases, the readiness of the American court to uphold groups' claims against the government, and the willingness to have an individual's personal life investigated for purposes of the common good. Perhaps not everyone will agree with all of these appraisals, but many readers will be interested in having at their disposal such a positive study by an alien.

LABOR AND ECONOMICS

An excellent book on labor might well have been included with books either on crime or the courts. I refer to the hard-hitting but eminently fair *Crime on the Labor Front* (McGraw-Hill. \$3.50), by Malcolm Johnson, which exposes much of the crime and extortion that riddles American labor today. Perhaps that word "riddles" isn't quite fair, for Johnson himself is the first to recognize the many honest and constructive unions. But there's no denying that labor crime is a profitable racket. Johnson particularly manifests the crime proceeding unchecked on the New York waterfront and leaves us with little excuse for not doing something about it. Everyone concerned with American labor will profit from this excellent volume. The exciting work of Catholic priests on the waterfront is grippingly described.

A more theoretical study of the American labor movement is Frank Tannenbaum's *A Philosophy of Labor* (Knopf. \$2.75), which refers to it as the conservative movement, the counter-revolution to the "isms" of our times. Though a brief book (and, as usual with Professor Tannenbaum, well written), it is difficult to summarize in a few lines. Suffice it to say

that it is a sharp analysis of the labor movement that has interested leaders in business and government as well as labor and education.

A pair of books which will be welcomed by students of labor are Kurt Braun's *The Right to Organize and Its Limits* (Brookings. \$3), a fairly technical comparative study of policies on organization in the United States and certain European countries; and Jesse T. Carpenter's *Employers' Associations and Collective Bargaining in New York City* (Cornell. \$4.50), which is a careful and helpful study of attitudes, procedures and strategy in the bargaining process. And we might end this section on labor with a chap who was making over half a million dollars annually as head of an automobile company after having started working as a youngster for ten cents an hour. The late Walter P. Chrysler, in collaboration with Boyden Sparkes, tells his story in the *Life of An American Workman* (Dodd, Mead. \$3). This is indeed an inspiring history, though it is quite beyond the emulation of most willing workers in today's unionized industry. Though the author sincerely prides himself on being a worker, as he was, he strangely shows little positive concern for the problems of his own workmen in telling the story of his industrial achievements. Many readers will enjoy this book as an expression of the opportunities open to the free American willing to exercise his initiative.

On the economic side of society's problems, one book that merits universal recommendation is Edwin G. Nourse's *The 1950's Come First* (Holt. \$2). It is a clear, simply stated, comprehensive analysis of the nation's economic problems in their political setting. Dr. Nourse, formerly chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, has the advantage of a life's experience in economics and an ability to give a valid general view of a situation briefly, interestingly (humorously, too!) and quite pointedly. For those who are overwhelmed, as most of us are, with the conflicting reports, ungovernable details, and mutually contradictory theories of our economic and political condition, I know of no better book to help straighten them out. Dr. Nourse's thesis is that American individualism, by creating powerful interest-groups (labor, business, farmers) and seeking alliance with government power, has been building a monster that will destroy individualism. American to his fingertips, Nourse advises us to change our ways.

Syracuse's Professor Suranyi-Unger has written a careful report, *Private Enterprise and Government Planning* (McGraw-Hill. \$4.50), in which he

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gives us a theoretical, nonideological analysis of the way in which private and government enterprise together can supply the totality of private and collective wants. Many students of the nation's economy will want this book not as a blueprint, but as a springboard for developing their own contributions.

Though the recent controversy between the Treasury and the Federal Reserve has been settled, at least for a while, many persons interested in the issues involved will want to read George L. Bach's *Federal Reserve Policy Making* (Knopf, \$3). The author bases his work on a study of the Federal Reserve which he made for the Hoover Commission a couple of years ago.

Another widely controverted issue today concerns the extent to which labor may expect to share in various industrial functions traditionally exercised by management. Father John Corrigan's *Management and Management's Rights to Manage in Industrial Relations* (Catholic University, \$2.50) shows the reversal in management's thinking on the subject between 1919 and 1945. Many leaders in management and labor circles, as well as guides in industrial relations, will find this study rewarding.

RACE, RESOURCES

The Negro in American Business (Greenberg, \$2.50), by Robert Kinzer and Edward Sagarin, gives us nothing new on the subject indicated in the title, but it does offer a fresh summary of the facts of Negro economic life. The authors' thesis is that a segregated economy is not feasible. On interracial relations I might call attention here again to Father LaFarge's book, *No Postponement* (Longmans, Green, \$3), which has been quite generally received as a strong presentation of the Catholic position on the problem. Students of the same problem will be interested in Father Joseph Doherty's *Moral Problems of Interracial Marriage* (Catholic University, \$2), which discusses the legislation of both Church and State on such marriages and the particular moral problems deriving therefrom.

Several good books have recently appeared on the question of conserving and using well our natural resources. First is A. G. Mezerik's *The Pursuit of Plenty: The Story of Man's Expanding Domain* (Harper, \$2), an instructive and angry answer to the ever-present neo-Malthusians among us. Research, planning, proper use of public funds, and an integrated policy can help our land develop its untapped resources many times over. The book deserves wide distribution, though the

author might more fairly have made mention of what progress has already been made.

Big Hugh: The Father of Soil Conservation (Macmillan, \$2.75), by Wellington Brink, is the enjoyable and laudatory story of Hugh Hammond Bennett, founding Chief of the United States Soil Conservation Service, and worthy successor to conservation genius Gifford Pinchot. Next is *Water, Land and People* (Knopf, \$4), by Bernard Frank and Anthony Netboy, who call attention to the dangerous silting of our dams (2/3 of our 10,000 large dams will be useless in 100 years at the present rate) and the need of more than half of our forest lands for rehabilitation—if only for water conservation. They call for public control of "upstreamers" if necessary. That problem of water has bothered quite a few of us in recent years. In *The Water and the Power* (Duell, Sloan & Pearce, \$4.50), Albert N. Williams insists that we have enough water in the country, but that we must treat it as a resource, not as a commodity. If need be, he advises, though reluctantly (for he dislikes public control), that watershed authorities be set up to handle the problem.

Farmers will be interested in a couple of the foregoing books, and also in a couple of books on agricultural policy: Theodore Schultz's *Production and Welfare of Agriculture* (Macmillan, \$3.50) and Leonard Schoff's *A National Agricultural Policy* (Harper, \$2.50). Both are good and should be read by those concerned with the farm problem.

A few good books which should be mentioned before we conclude this survey are Father William B. Faherty, S.J.'s, *The Destiny of Modern Woman* (Newman, \$3), which brings us up to date on papal teaching on the place of women in society; two books on co-operatives and credit unions, George Boyle's *The Poor Man's Prayer* (Harper, \$2.50), the fictionalized biography of America's cooperative pioneer, Alphonse Desjardins, and Richard Giles' *Credit for the Millions* (Harper, \$2.50), the account of credit union development; and finally three fairly good contributions to our understanding of alcoholism and what to do about it. They are Marty Mann's *Primer on Alcoholism* (Rinehart, \$2), Dwight Anderson's *The Other Side of the Bottle* (Wyn, \$3) and Harold Sherman's *You Can Stop Drinking* (Creative Age, \$2.49).

The first three books in the foregoing paragraph are highly recommended for everyone, those on alcoholism for those in any way concerned with the problem.

JOSEPH B. SCHUYLER

Chronicle of the near and far past

The late Bishop Kelley of Oklahoma once said that no one can study any public question of our time with honest intent unless he gives attention to that event of the sixteenth century which modern historians refer to as the Protestant Revolt. In the English-speaking world especially, practically every major problem we have to solve, including communism, has been handed to us by that event.

FROM REVOLT TO SOCIALISM

For this reason it would be highly unfortunate if discriminating readers passed over Philip Hughes' *The Reformation in England* (Macmillan, \$6) in favor of one of the more popular and superficial analyses of contemporary events. The principal merit of this dynamic study is that it is a thorough treatment of a complex subject, full-bodied, excellent in its summation of the available evidence, mature in judgment, and authoritative in its interpretations and conclusions. The revolt against the Church was an important segment or phase of a larger revolutionary movement that stirred all England in the Tudor period, just as events in England were only part of a much wider insurrection against the unity of Christendom. A second volume will carry the story through the Anglican compromise in Elizabeth's ambiguous reign.

Last year marked the centenary of the restoration of the hierarchy in England and some of the publications commemorating this significant event have just reached this country. Typical of a number of illustrated souvenir booklets that represent a considerable impetus to Catholic historical research are J. H. Darby's *Diocese of Clifton* (Bristol: Burleigh Ltd.) and the *Centenary Book of the Diocese of Nottingham* (Newport: R. H. Johns Ltd.), compiled by a priest of the diocese. The preservation of Catholicism in England was largely due to a whole host of half-forgotten clergy and nameless laity whose outstanding heroism and quiet sanctity will always be a source of courage and inspiration to the faithful everywhere. Special mention should be made of the late Douglas Newton's *Catholic London* (Macmillan, \$4), a vivid and informed portrayal of the great city's Catholic life from its traditional beginnings in St. Peter's, Cornhill, to the restoration of the hierarchy in 1850.

Sir Charles Petrie's *The Jacobite Movement: The Last Phase, 1716-1807* (Macmillan, \$2.75) is the second and concluding volume of a complete survey of the Stuart movement that ultimately failed to dislodge the unworthy Hanoverians. Bonnie Prince Charlie's failure to advance from

Derby to London is still a subject of romantic controversy. G. M. Trevelyan's *Illustrated English Social History* (Longmans, Green, \$3.75) is the second of four volumes and covers both the Elizabethan and Stuart eras. The text is distinguished and the illustrations have attracted widespread commendation for their beauty and variety.

The current Socialist experiment in England and the decline of British imperial power have inspired a number of books which seek to evaluate the meaning and significance of British history in the twentieth century.

In the optimistic category is William B. Willcox's *Star of Empire: A Study of Britain as a World Power, 1485-1945* (Knopf, \$5). The author finds nothing decadent about the British people of today. By way of contrast, Douglas Jerrold's *England: Past, Present and Future* (Norton, \$4) takes a rather dour and pessimistic view of England under socialism—in the light of those historical forces which chiefly determined Britain's political and economic history in the past. Mr. Jerrold believes that our major troubles today are the product of the counter-Renaissance, a late sixteenth-century movement that represented a scientific search for a society free from all senti-

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mental observances or traditional loyalties.

Roy Lewis and Angus Maude's *The English Middle Classes* (Knopf, \$3.75) is a warning to Americans not to imitate the British experiment. Lewis and Maude contend that socialism is sapping the traditional vitality of the middle classes and is offering them only a precarious and inauspicious future. Winston Churchill would probably agree, but he is now busily engaged in giving his version of World War II. His fourth volume, *Hinge of Fate* (Houghton Mifflin, \$6), covers the period from January 1942 to May 1943.

Edward Hallett Carr has two books to his credit this season. The first is *Studies in Revolution* (Macmillan, \$2), a brief but expert introduction to the ideologies of leading European revolutionists, ranging all the way from Saint-Simon to Stalin. More important is the first of three volumes on the history of Soviet Russia. The first volume, *The Bolshevik Revolution, 1917-1923* (Macmillan, \$5), deals with the

upheaval in Russia up to the foundation of the USSR. The second volume will carry the story forward to 1928. R. G. Waldeck's *Europe between the Acts* (Doubleday, \$3.50) is an enjoyable account of her observations and experiences in various European countries between wars.

REVOLUTION, CIVIL WAR

American historians are not lagging behind their European colleagues. Their industry and proficiency are of a high order and their interests are equally global in character.

Following a chronological sequence, first mention must go to Willard Mosher Wallace's *Appeal to Arms: A Military History of the American Revolution* (Harper, \$4.50), a dispassionate account of the American struggle for independence that is eminently fair both to the British and to the colonials.

Another important addition to your American history shelf would be Merrill Jensen's *The New Nation: A History of the United States during the Confederation, 1781-1789* (Knopf, \$5). Most students of the period are aware that the radical weakness of the Confederation was its complete dependence upon the good will of the sovereign States. The States contributed only about half a million dollars annually—a sum scarcely sufficient to meet the running expenses of govern-

ment. Mr. Jensen tends to minimize the powerlessness of the Confederation and asserts that only a minority group of nationalists desired a stronger government.

Fletcher Pratt's *Preble's Boys* (Sloane, \$5) is an interesting account of Edward Preble and his training influence upon early American seamen, some of whom achieved distinction in the War of 1812.

Our Civil War period is still attractive to researchers. An outstanding achievement is Allan Nevins' two-volume work, *The Emergence of Lincoln* (Scribner, \$12.50), a continuation of his memorable *Ordeal of the Union*, published four years ago. The present volumes carry the story forward to 1861 and are marked by a remarkably comprehensive and fair-minded schol-

FIVE FOR REMEMBRANCE

The Reformation in England, by Philip Hughes.

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arship. Professor Nevins again underscores his dominant theme that the war is an indictment of a generation of political leaders and, behind them, of a whole nation, its spirit and civilization.

Bruce Catton's *Mr. Lincoln's Army* (Doubleday, \$3.75) concentrates attention on Lincoln's famous Army of the Potomac when it was under the command of Gen. George B. McClellan. George Alfred Townsend's *Rustics in Rebellion: A Yankee Reporter on the Road to Richmond* (University of North Carolina, \$3.50) is a war correspondent's view of the war, with particular emphasis on the summer of 1862 and the last days of the Confederacy. It is a superb eye-witness human-interest document.

Helen Augur's *Tall Ships to Cathay* (Doubleday, \$3) is a vivid re-creation of our fabulous and adventurous trade with China in the nineteenth century which helped so much to revitalize our strength after the Civil War.

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Two regional studies provide a pleasant and easy transition to our own century.

Kathryn Winslow's *Big Pan-Out* (Norton, \$3.75) deals realistically with the tremendous human drama packed into one of the most famous gold strikes in history. Klondike is a magic word, calling to mind a thousand dreams and a million heartaches. A few hardy souls struck it rich, but many others were bitterly disappointed in their eager quest for easy treasure. C. L. Sonnichsen's *Cowboys and Cattle Kings: Life on the Range To-day* (University of Oklahoma, \$4.50) is history without a bibliography. It is not an antiquarian journey into the past but a record of the vast cattle kingdom today. The author interviewed hundreds of ranchmen and others all the way from the Rio Grande to the Canadian border. The result is an authentic and fascinating account of life on the range in our atomic age.

H. V. Kaltenborn's *Fifty Fabulous Years, 1900-1950* (Putnam, \$3.50) is the autobiography of a famous news commentator and his reactions to famous people and historic events during the past half century. Kaltenborn is not very profound but he will hold your interest to the last page. Herbert Asbury's *The Great Illusion: An Informal History of Prohibition* (Doubleday, \$4) is partly a history of the drinking habits of the American people, inside and outside the law, and partly a history of the formidable temperance movement, well organized and well financed, that involved all of us in what used to be called a "noble experiment."

CHRONICLES OF WAR

According to a recent estimate, there are thirty-nine tons of documents in the Pentagon awaiting any historian who wants to reconstruct the military campaigns in Europe during the last war. Gen. Omar N. Bradley tapped this mountain of information only slightly for his *Soldier's Story*, scheduled for June publication. Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, having scored heavily with his *Three Years in Moscow*, is about to write his wartime story. That leaves only General MacArthur.

Meanwhile current production is largely restricted to the naval aspects of World War II. Samuel Eliot Morison's history of naval operations in World War II has reached Volume VI. His *Breaking the Bismarck's Barrier* (Little, Brown, \$6) deals with the Papuan and Bougainville campaigns, and the famous battle of the Bismarck Sea, which resulted in the destruction of a considerable amount of Japanese transport shipping. In 1943 the United States became the mightiest sea and air power in the world, presaging more serious defeats for the enemy. Theodore Roscoe's *United States Submarine Operations in World War II* (U. S. Naval Institute, \$10) underscores the immense damage inflicted upon Japanese shipping by American undersea raiders—more than five million tons. Undersea warfare has a unique kind of thrill. This book is packed with suspense and excitement as our submariners undertake to shrivel up Japanese Pacific conquests—and succeed beyond all expectations.

DIPLOMATIC HISTORY

If I may trespass a bit on an earlier section let me say that two books will bring you up to date on our Government's pre-war foreign policy. They are Basil Rauch's *Roosevelt From Munich to Pearl Harbor: A Study in the Creation of a Foreign Policy* (Creative Age, \$4.50) and Herbert Feis' *The Road to Pearl Harbor* (Princeton, \$5). The period was marked by a series of ominous military and diplomatic incidents, culminating in alarming Japanese troop movements into Indo-China and a Russo-Japanese neutrality pact. A sizable Japanese fleet appeared in the Gulf of Siam, with obvious designs on Thailand. The United States was unprepared for war and our Government, according to latest findings, did what it could to postpone conflict in order to give us time to prepare for hostilities. The general reader will welcome these two very able studies of American foreign policy, if only for the reason that they contain much new material not found elsewhere.

JOHN J. O'CONNOR

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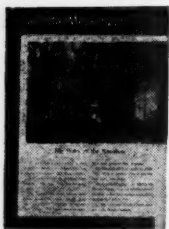
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"Lives of great men all remind us . . ."

Recent accounts of the great and near-great figures of history have leaned heavily toward literary subjects. Several excellent studies of modern authors, as well as those of the past two centuries, have appeared, but in most cases the author's treatment of the subject would classify the book more as literary criticism than biography.

About the only first-class scholarly biography to appear during the past winter is Claude Bower's *Pierre Vergniaud: Voice of the French Revolution* (Macmillan, \$6.50). This is the first full-length biography of the great leader of the Girondins, a man who ranked with Mirabeau, Danton and Robespierre during the first years of the French Revolution as one of the great leaders of that movement. Vergniaud's passion for freedom, his sincere interest in the welfare of the people and his great oratorical ability soon made him a force to be reckoned with in the Assembly, but his impractical idealism and lack of political shrewdness made him an easy victim of the more ruthless elements led by Robespierre who had him butchered during the Terror.

Mr. Bowers tells the story well and the book shows his usual painstaking research and scholarly accuracy. Most of the chapters are interesting and some are dramatic but at times there is such attention to details or discussion of abstract principles of government as to make the study rather hard going for the average reader. The attempt to make Vergniaud a Jeffersonian Democrat seems overdone. One can hardly imagine Jefferson presiding at the trial of George III and seeking the death of that unsympathetic monarch.

SUBJECT OF THE "GREATER DEBATE"

While hardly a great book, *The Riddle of MacArthur*, by John Gunther (Harper, \$2.75), is a very timely one due to recent developments. Such a controversial figure as General MacArthur could not hope to escape the notice of aspiring biographers. John Gunther has taken advantage of the situation to turn out another of his "Inside" stories. The author is an excellent reporter, has a good eye for the dramatic and is a master of anecdote, and so has turned out a very readable if somewhat superficial book. It contains much useful and interesting information on conditions in Japan during the last five years.

The many anecdotes are entertaining, the narrative at times is thrilling, but as for MacArthur—he remains as much a riddle as ever. His defects and shortcomings are bluntly stated, his abilities and achievements generously

praised; indeed he is treated with an objectivity that will please neither his admirers nor his enemies. The book no doubt will be widely read, and profitably so if the reader concentrates on the factual information and is not too impressed by some of the author's analyses and conclusions.

Another treatment of the same subject is *MacArthur, Man of Action*, by Frank Kelley and Cornelius Ryan (Doubleday, \$2.), which gives an account of the General's entire military career. The hero-worshipping attitude of the authors together with a breezy style and an old-time flag-waving type of narrative make for exciting reading.

LINCOLN AND THREE C'S

It would seem that Lincoln has been studied and discussed from every possible angle, but two authors have recently attempted a novel approach to the subject. *Lincoln and the Press*, by Robert S. Harper (McGraw-Hill, \$6) and *A Rail Splitter for President*, by Wayne C. Williams (University of Denver, \$3), are attempts to reconstruct a picture of Lincoln solely from contemporary press reports. It is an interesting experiment but a difficult method to handle without leaving the reader confused and annoyed by excessive repetition. *Lincoln and the Press* is by far the better work. Mr. Williams, while following the same method, limits his work to the campaign of 1860, while Mr. Harper covers the entire public life of the President. Both books consist chiefly of long quotations from the press of the day, praising or condemning Lincoln and his policies. While unlikely to appeal to the average reader, they contain much otherwise unobtainable information which make them valuable reference works for the student.

The Lincoln Treasury, by Caroline Thomas Harnsberger (Wilcox & Follett, \$5), is a compilation of apt, witty and wise comments from Lincoln's writings and speeches covering about everything from Abolition to Youth. While not as comprehensive as Shain's *Lincoln Encyclopedia*, it will prove a helpful reference work for the student and public speaker. It is an attractive-looking volume with a number of fine illustrations and a helpful cross-index.

My First Eighty-Three Years in America, by James W. Gerard (Doubleday, \$3.50), records the rather garrulous and rambling reminiscences of a man who played a prominent and able part in public life at an important moment in our history. James W. Gerard was American Ambassador at Berlin in 1914, and at various times a lawyer, judge, business man and poli-

tician. In all these fields he showed unusual energy and ability. In the course of a long life he has had a part in many important events and known many important people, all of which he describes at great length in the present volume. While interesting and informative, there is a lack of emphasis on the really important and an annoying amount of trivia.

In *Physician to the World: The Life of Gen. William C. Gorgas*, by John M. Gibson (Duke University, \$4.50), we have the interesting story of the great pioneer in sanitation whose remarkable work in eradicating disease at Havana and Panama and whose career as Surgeon General of the Army has placed him among the great benefactors of mankind. His work was carried on with dogged determination in spite of red tape, the reactionary ideas of his superiors and the ignorance and indifference of those he was trying to help.

There has been an unusual interest in Horace Greeley on the part of biographers during the past couple of years, and William Harlan Hale in his *Horace Greeley* (Harper, \$4) makes another attempt to interpret that strange character. It is an entertaining and sympathetic account of Greeley as a reformer, politician, editor and showman whose grotesque appearance and eccentric activities kept him always in the public eye. This biography, however, adds nothing new to the other recent books on the subject.

The People's General: The Personal Story of Lafayette by David Loth (Scribner, \$3.50), is an excellent popular account of the romantic Revolutionary hero. The author gives a detailed account of his hero's activities in the French Revolution and the later political events of his native country. This is a period of his life totally unknown to most of his American admirers, to whom he is a rather vague legend, disappearing after Yorktown and suddenly bobbing up again forty years later on the occasion of his famous visit in 1824. It is a book the general reader will enjoy.

GENERALS, ECONOMISTS, AUTHORS

Lately, biographers have been more interested in European than American subjects and besides Mr. Bowers' excellent book on Vergniaud, there are several better-than-average studies of contemporary European figures. The most interesting, perhaps, is Desmond Young's *Rommel, The Desert Fox* (Harper, \$3.50). Rommel was by far the best-known and the ablest of the German generals. Though not a Nazi, he was loyal to Hitler up to the time of the unsuccessful "plot of the Generals" in 1944. While it is still too

early to pass final judgment on his character or military genius, Rommel's opponents admit he was an outstanding tactician, a hard and clean fighter who won their respect and even admiration. The African campaigns, in which the author himself took part,



are the most interesting and fully developed part of the story, but Rommel's activities in the invasion of France in 1941 and the attempt to check the Allied invasion of 1944 are also well treated.

Tito and Goliath, by Hamilton Fish Armstrong (Macmillan, \$3.50), is a rather dangerous and harmful book. The author gives a very informative account of affairs in Yugoslavia (an unfamiliar story to the average American), but he is uncritically favorable to Tito and all his works and greatly exaggerates the General's influence on the other satellite governments. Admitting that Tito and his followers are pure Communists, Mr. Armstrong still

seems to favor some form of Titoism as the most desirable government for the other states of Eastern Europe. His treatment of the subject follows the usual slant of the anti-Communist Liberals, many of whom are not so much opposed to totalitarian principles as to Soviet imperialism.

During the past twenty years the lives of millions have been influenced by a man of whom they have never heard. R. F. Harrod tells his story in *The Life of John Maynard Keynes* (Harcourt, Brace, \$7.50). Since the early 'thirties the fiscal and economic theories of Keynes have had a tremendous influence in shaping the economic and social policies not only of Britain but of the United States as well, since most of the theories and reforms of the New Deal derive from his ideas. The author gives a full account of Keynes economic theories, many of which seem sound and reasonable, but at times have been misunderstood or wrongly applied by overzealous disciples. The work should prove very interesting and informative to all students of economics and the social sciences.

Turning back to the sixteenth century, we have two interesting stories treating of such disparate characters as the Grand Turk and a Spanish author. *Suleiman The Magnificent*:

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The Florida State University

FOREWORD BY

The Reverend Paul Hanly Fursey
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WRITTEN by a non-Catholic, this volume summarizes, with rare impartiality, the contributions made by Catholics to social theory and the special branches of sociology. "No Catholic can have anything but gratitude for the author's unusually objective point of view."—American Catholic Sociological Review. \$5.00

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Sultan of the East, by Harold Lamb (Doubleday, \$5), is the story of the able warrior and shrewd politician who ruled the Ottoman Empire from 1520 to 1566. Under him that Empire reached its furthest limits and Moslem Corsairs gained almost complete control of the Mediterranean. This terrible threat from the East—similar to that of communism today—came at a time when Europe was least able to cope with it, for these were the years of the rise of Protestantism and the bitter rivalry between France and Spain. Mr. Lamb tells the story in his usual exciting and dramatic way and the reader will enjoy the thrilling tale in spite of the fact that the author is uncritically favorable to his hero and fails to understand the Moslem threat to the culture and civilization of Europe.

FIVE OF THE BEST

Pierre Vergniaud: Voice of The French Revolution, by Claude Bowers

The Pillar Of Fire, by Dr. Karl Stein

Rommel, The Desert Fox, by Desmond Young

Cervantes, by Gary MacEoin

The Riddle of MacArthur, by John Gunther

To most of us Cervantes is only the name of the author of Don Quixote. Gary MacEoin in *Cervantes* (Bruce, \$3.25) has done an excellent job in bringing alive this shadowy character. He gives us a dramatic and informative account of the wandering adventurer, poet and soldier of fortune who was in some ways very like his own immortal Don. Besides, there is a fine picture of the times, especially of sixteenth-century Spain at the height of her glory and prosperity. The most dramatic point of the story is the famous battle of Lepanto in which Cervantes took part. So much space is given to the writer's background and the Catholic setting of his works that our hero is sometimes lost sight of completely. Cervantes' Europe, though, is such a lost world to the average modern reader that he would understand little of the great Spaniard's work without Mr. MacEoin's lengthy explanations.

OF SPECIAL CATHOLIC INTEREST

Among recent works which should be of special interest to the Catholic reader is *Reginald Pole, Cardinal of England*, by Dr. Wilhelm Schenk (Longmans, Green, \$3). This is a much-needed book, for it is time that someone gathered together the scat-

tered references to a name which keeps bobbing up through the history of the English Schism and the Catholic Reformation and attached them to a definite living individual. And this is what Dr. Schenk has done. Born of the highest English nobility, a cousin of Henry VIII, with whom he was very friendly during their youth, Pole spent most of his life in exile. An outstanding humanistic scholar, shy and ascetic in temperament, he was forced by circumstances to take an active part in many of the turbulent religious and political upheavals of the sixteenth century. His efforts to prevent Henry VIII's break with the Church, his activities at the Council of Trent, his labors as Papal Legate during Mary Tudor's reign, are only the high points of a long and active career in the service of the Church. The author has produced a scholarly and interesting work though the last chapter is an unexpected let-down; here he shows none of the sympathetic understanding of Catholicism so evident in the rest of the book.

Returning to our own day, we have the thought-provoking story of a recent convert, *The Pillar of Fire*, by Dr. Karl Stein (Harcourt, Brace, \$3.50). The author, a well-known psychiatrist and convert from Judaism, tells the story of his Bavarian boyhood, studies at Berlin and Munich, the flight to England to escape Nazi persecution, the final settlement in Canada where he is now a distinguished professor at McGill University. The account of his intellectual and spiritual development is by far the most interesting and important part of the book. He is master of a fine English style and a very intellectual man and his reflections and comments on science, religion and modern life, though a bit profound for the average reader, will well repay the effort necessary to follow and understand him. F. J. GALLAGHER

REV. WILLIAM L. LUCEY, S.J., is professor of History and Political Science at Holy Cross College, Worcester, Mass.

JOSEPH B. SCHUYLER, S.J., now at Woodstock College, Maryland, received his M.A. at St. Louis University. He is the co-author of texts on social problems.

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Thoughts to nourish the life of grace

A Jesuit without fail reflects the teaching and the emphases of the "Spiritual Exercises" when he writes on religion. In *Living Your Faith* (Prentice-Hall. \$3), an Irish Jesuit, Father Robert Nash, takes the reader from an acceptance of the truths of Catholicism to a total dedication of his will in daily life. Clarity, practicality, logic and an instinctive understanding of the modern world make Father Nash an experienced guide.

A firm theological foundation always underlies anything Father Gerald Vann, O.P., writes. He is, however, a spiritual teacher superbly sensitive to the problems of the times and a literary craftsman of outstanding skill. *The High Green Hill* (Sheed & Ward. \$2.25) is his latest collection of essays. The theme of one of the chapters, "The Apostolate of Satan," is expanded by Bernard J. Kelly, C.S.Sp., in *God, Man and Satan* (Newman. \$2), a book that inspects the personality of Lucifer, his plan for the world and his intervention in human affairs.

Satan's conqueror has all His recorded utterances arranged in their chronological order, with sufficient commentary to explain the circumstances in which they were uttered and to make their meaning clear in

Jesus in His Own Words by Harold Roper, S.J. (Newman. \$3.25). The result: an interesting Life of Christ.

Wu Ching-hsiung, a close friend of Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, was president of the International Court at Shanghai and the principal author of the Constitution of the Chinese Republic. Ten years ago he became a Catholic, sacrificing in his conversion none of the positive values of Confucianism nor of the cultural traditions of his people. As John C. H. Wu, a



Catholic, he made a literal translation of the New Testament on orders of Chiang Kai-shek and served as Chinese Ambassador to the Holy See. The jolly little man, given to turning somersaults when happy, explains how it all happened in *Beyond East and West* (Sheed & Ward. \$3.50). Professor Wu boasts that he gained new treasures in becoming a Catholic.

Father Henry van Straelen, S.V.D., a missionary, argues in *Through Eastern Eyes* (Grailville. \$3.50) that Catholicism, too, will be enriched by the contributions of the Orient. His book, with an Introduction by Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen, analyzes the religious attitudes and cultural traditions of the Far East and indicates the mode of Catholic adaption (in the sense of de-Westernization) needed to win the Orient for Christ.

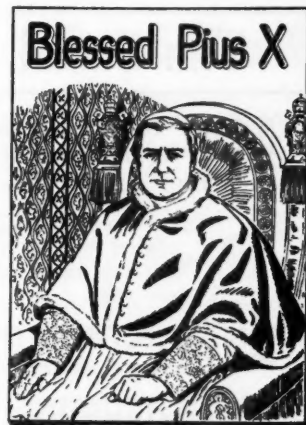
More in the nature of an encyclopedia is the scholarly *Religions of the Far East* by George C. Ring (Bruce. \$6), helpful for an understanding of how religious motivations have affected, and may yet affect, the cultural and political history of the Orient.

East or West, marriage is the ordinary vocation of mortals and their normal source of happiness and holiness. Help to achieve both is offered in *One in Mind, One in Heart, One in Affections* (Providence College. \$2.25), a series of Cana-style conferences edited by W. R. Clark, O.P. Father Philip C. M. Kelly, C.S.C., has compiled *The Catholic Book of Marriage* (Farrar, Strauss, & Young. \$3), a splendid present for engaged couples. *Sins of Parents*, by Father Charles Hugo Doyle (Nugent. \$3) can also be recommended as providing warnings of the all too prevalent failures of parents.

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DOCTRINE AND PRACTITIONERS

One of the most attractive masters of the spiritual life is St. Francis de Sales. His appealing teaching has been successfully synthesized—with pertinent quotations from the saint's voluminous writings—by C. F. Kelley in *The Spirit of Love* (Harper, \$3.50). The book is organized to present the essential message of one of God's greatest counselors of souls: how to give back to God what he gives us, how to return love for love. Likewise addressed primarily to the lay person is Dorothy Dohen's *Vocation to Love* (Sheed & Ward, \$2.50), a practical and unsentimental series of highly readable chapters on the spiritual life. Speaking directly to the lay mind, *For Goodness Sake*, by William Lawson, S.J. (Sheed & Ward, \$2.25), provides all the essential information on the nature and function of the life of grace and ample motivation for apostolic action. Don't be deterred by the mawkish title: the book is full of the solid meat of doctrine.

Father Antonin G. Sertillanges, O.P., was a leader of the spiritual revival in modern France. Eighty-eight of his short considerations bearing on the primary realities of the spiritual life have been gathered in *Recollection* (McMullen, \$1.50) as meditations for the laity.

A self-help book calculated to overcome the debilitating fears and paralyzing vacillation that burden moderns is Father John A. O'Brien's *The Art of Courageous Living* (McMullen, \$2.50). Designed to be read a chapter a day, the book offers principles, illustrative examples, a scheme for a five-minute reflection and a series of conclusions for practical action.

Back in 1937 Father C. C. Martindale wrote a book *Does God Matter for Me?* for people lacking anchorage in life but seeking some purpose in existence. The war and illness delayed the sequel, *Can Christ Help Me?* (Newman, \$2.25) which turns out to be, not a book of apologetics, but a rapid review of the resources for personality fulfillment Christ offers. Father Martindale's familiarity with the history of religions and his Scriptural skill stand out. The book suffers, however, from overcrowding of detail. No overcrowding mars Father Martindale's *The Faith of the Roman Church*, reissued by Sheed and Ward (\$2.50). Clarity is its distinguishing mark. Father Martindale examines the premises of the Christian faith and the essential assertions of the Catholic creed in themselves and in their articulation to form a consistent pattern. There is an ample section on Catholicism as it has lived and as it is living in the world, a sort of biography of

FIVE HEADLINERS

Beyond East and West, by John C. H. Wu
The Spirit of Love, by C. F. Kelley
Living Your Faith, by Robert Nash, S.J.
The High Green Hill, by Gerald Vann, O.P.
Living the Mass, by F. Desplanques, S.J.

the faith in action. It is reassuring to have this eminently successful, adult explanation of what it is to be a Catholic—and why—available again.

Roman Road (Sheed & Ward, \$1.50) is an unusual sort of a convert story. The author, G. R. Lamb, recounts his pilgrimage across the classes—from a working-class home, through Cambridge University, unemployment, a flirting with communism, a sort of job with a dance band—to the harbor of the classless society that is the Church. Mr. Lamb, who was working as an assistant gardener when he wrote this candid personal documentary, clearly thought himself into the church. The analytic power he displays, the literary craftsmanship he demonstrates in describing, with judgment and without bitterness, the tensions, humiliations and maladjustments that were his lot, make him a writer to watch.

A saint who lived some centuries ago—she was twenty-eight when Columbus set sail—was recently canonized. She has her abiding importance for the contemporary world, however: she faced a problem all too common in our country and age, a personal marriage problem, and out of it wove the material of sanctity. Jeanne of Valois, a royal princess of France, found herself married at the age of twelve to the future King Louis XII. Twenty-two years later a declaration of nullity left her in the bitter and humiliating position of an unwanted wife and a demoted queen. She neither sulked nor cut herself off from human needs but, as the Duchess of Berry, resolutely devoted herself to practical works of charity.

The Duc de Lévis Mirepoix's biography, *Jeanne of France: Princess and Saint* (Longmans, Green, \$3.50), is the work of a distinguished French historian. Contrasts and comparisons of Jeanne of Valois with Jeanne d'Arc (who crowned the royal princess' grandfather at Rheims) are a fascinating feature of this study of sanctity in tumultuous fifteenth-century France.

Another Jeanne of France founded a religious congregation, one which Pope Pius XI called "the hands and the heart of Providence." There are now 6,000 Little Sisters of the Poor

The Social Order Encyclicals

MAY 15, 1951, is the anniversary of the publication of *Rerum Novarum* (Leo XIII, 1891) and *Quadragesimo Anno* (Pius XI, 1931).

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taking care of the indigent aged—and spurning all subsidy to make their work one of total charity. That stupendous and unglamorous campaign of radical charity goes back to a dream that possessed *Jeanne Jugan* whose biography (Newman, \$3.75) has been written by Msgr. Francis Trochu, author of a well-known life of the Curé d'Ars. "Fantastically impractical," was the verdict when the Institute of the Little Sisters of the Poor was founded in 1839. The same judgment might be voiced by social workers today.

Another religious foundress, one soon to be beatified, sits for her portrait in *Surrender to the Spirit* (Kenedy, \$3). It is an account of the career of Mother Thérèse Couderc and thus of the origins of the Religious of Our Lady of the Cenacle and the movement for closed retreats for women. Mother Eileen Surles, R. C. writes the tribute to her foundress.

Venerable John Martin Moye, an eighteenth-century French priest, founded two religious congregations. Appalled by the religious ignorance and apathy of the times, he founded the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence to teach the children of the poor. Raoul Plus, S.J., writes the biography of this crusader to Christianize the world under the title *Shepherd of the Untended Sheep* (Newman, \$2.50).

Still another religious foundress, *Madame de Chantal*, is the subject of H. J. Heagney's charmingly simple and urbane account of the married life and widowhood of St. Jane Frances and the early days of the Visitation Order. Father Heagney drew upon contemporary memoirs, the correspondence in the annals at Annecy and the writings of St. Francis de Sales for this biography (Kenedy, \$3.50).

De La Salle: Saint and Spiritual Writer, by W. J. Battersby (Longmans, \$2.50), is more a study (it was originally part of a doctoral dissertation) than a biography of the founder of the Christians Brothers, set against the background of the spiritual forces that fought for supremacy in late seventeenth-century France.

"Why has Maria Goretti so quickly captured your hearts, even to becoming your darling and your favorite?" asked the Holy Father at the canonization of this youthful martyr of purity. "Because there are," he answered, "immense multitudes on whom the supernatural attraction of Christian purity exerts an irresistible and promising fascination." Following Marie Cecilia Buehrle's *St. Maria Goretti* (Bruce, \$2.50), Alfred MacConastair, C.P., has told her story from on-the-scene investigations in *Lily of the Marshes* (Macmillan, \$2.75).

"IT'S THE MASS THAT MATTERS"

"We have mediocre Christians because their Mass is mediocre." The judgment is that of Father R. Desplanques, S.J., in an effort to make the Mass more meaningful as a collaborative act of immolation and a "Sacrament of Unity," he offers a simple and practical manual for meditation called *Living the Mass* (Newman, \$2.75). Here the central act of Redemption becomes the central doctrine of the spiritual life of the redeemed. An invaluable guide for American Catholic Actionists inclined to activism, a needed counterweight to popular piety too peripheral.

In *Behind the Mass* (Christopher, \$2.50), Father Albert J. Shamon treats the history of the Church year and its development through the ages and studies the Mass itself, first from our side and then from God's. *The Week with Christ* (Fides, \$3.50) is a series of practical meditations on the liturgy of Sundays and holydays designed to meet the needs of young people working in the specialized apostolate of Catholic Action. Fr. Emerick Lawrence, O.S.B., is the author.

The Mass looks back to Calvary, and Daniel A. Lord, S.J., in *His Passion Forever* (Bruce, \$2) very dramatically describes that "sacred, splendid, shameful, terrifying drama," associating us with each one of the actors, making the whole chronicle crucially contemporaneous.

Concerned about the crisis in vocations for the sisterhoods in France, a group of priests formed a study circle to examine the problem. The resulting essays are gathered together in a symposium, *Religious Sisters* (Newman, \$3.50), which examines with theological thoroughness the foundations and principles of religious living and suggests methods of applying the principles to modern conditions. The experienced Godfrey Poage, C.P., in *Recruiting for Christ* (Bruce, \$3), has written a manual for vocational guidance.

Rev. Ignatz Watterott has two series of conferences, *The Guidance of Religious and Religious Life and Spirit*. Herder is the publisher. Each volume is \$6. In *Christlikeness* (Newman, \$2.75), Sister M. Victorine, I.H.M., offers her thoughts on spiritual transformation through a Christocentric life. (Newman, \$2.75). *Our Happy Lot* (Herder, \$3.50) is a consideration of the privilege and obligations of vocation to the apostolic life by Aurelio Polit, S.J. Father Lawrence G. Lovasik, S.V.D., offers many practical suggestions drawn from masters of the spiritual life in *Stepping Stones to Sanctity*. (Macmillan, \$2.25).

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Novels, more or less impressive, of the period

The hope ought to be expressed, I suppose, that the semi-annual round-ups of the books don't impress the reader as having been embarked on with a firm and crabbed determination to take the dim view. There are, of course, not a few good books to mention every six months, but it really is surprising, when you take another glimpse from the perspective of a little lapsed time, how few books will stand out as really worth selecting in a survey.

That slightly melancholy fact (but another illustration of the fleetingness of fame, etc.—all *loci classici* for the preacher) is emphasized particularly in the field of fiction, where so many books are more ephemeral and hitched to the fashion of the moment. Publishers, of course, are loathe to admit that; they will insist that *this* book is a "major contribution," an "immortal statement," and what have you. I believe that some enterprising publisher will yet make the world-shaking discovery that the very novelty (not to mention the honesty) of making more modest claims is an advertising technique that will attract many an at-present wary reader.

SERVICEMEN VIEW WAR

The book that has had the most extravagant claims made for it this season is without doubt James Jones' *From Here to Eternity* (Scribner, \$4.50). The content of this extremely foul-mouthed tome has been discussed enough, I believe, to absolve me from summarizing it here. It is an interesting fact to note that reviews which appeared some time after the initial laudatory hysteria the book occasioned were generally more reserved. Second thoughts began to prove best. At any rate, whatever good qualities the book has—power in the writing, and so on—it certainly is *not* a great book, if only because of its utter lack of discipline and the spirit of adolescent rebellion that seethes in it.

As if written in direct refutation of the Jones' jumble, Robert O. Bowen's *The Weight of the Cross* (Knopf, \$3.50) takes the same crude and dehumanizing background, places another confused and stubborn young man plunk in the middle of it, and comes up with a solution that is credibly human. Tom Daley, a sailor in the peacetime Navy, is in the psycho ward for having assaulted an officer in a blind rage against—what? His unsympathetic home training? His loneliness? He doesn't know, but he gradually finds out when he and his friend Gaddy, another maladjusted sailor, are freed from the ward by a Jap bombing, make their way toward Bataan,

are captured by the Japs and live out the war in a concentration camp, starving and worked like beasts. What he finds is that he has been rebelling all his life against a distorted concept of God and duty. The book is almost as "realistic" as Jones'; there is plenty of barracks-talk in it; the philosophizing or theologizing is involved and inconclusive. There is, however, a tone of over-all soundness and credibility that makes Jones' novel seem even more, by comparison, a parody.

Better than either book is *The Caine Mutiny*, by Herman Wouk (Doubleday, \$3.95). Here is a war book that manages to convey the impression that even ordinarily good men degenerate in wartime, and yet does it in the way literature must—by suggestion and implication, not by stenographic report. The commanding officer of the U.S.S. *Caine* is a tyrant. When his pathological state threatens the safety of the ship, he is removed from command by a subordinate officer (under an obscure Navy regulation). In the process a young officer grows to real manhood. There are thrilling action scenes, a tense court-martial, and an absorbing account of men under stress, who do not sink to bitter hate or bestiality.

Another war book—from the point of view of the little people of Europe who get caught up in it, is *The Twenty-Fifth Hour*, by C. Virgil Cheorghiu (Knopf, \$3.50). This time it is World War III, which erupts at the end of the story. That story is largely one of the concentration camps in which the group have lived in the backwash of World War II. The twenty-fifth hour is the hour "when it is too late for the coming of the Messiah." That's the hour we are now living in, says this powerful, if gloomy book, which is even more shudder-producing than Orwell's 1984.

If you'd like to glimpse—hurriedly and incredulously—the pattern of the current U.S. war novel at its most banal, borrow a copy of *Point of Honor*, by M. R. Kadish (Random, \$3). Our reviewer ended his castigation of this book with the bored observation: "There seems to be nothing to do now but wait for the next serviceman with a war novel in his system. The greatest novelty to be expected is that the author may be a supply sergeant, or a Senior Balloon Pilot."

On that dyspeptic note we drop our martial chronicle.

"SIGNIFICANT" BOOK

Cudgel my small brains with a large knotty cudgel as I will, I cannot single out for you a single really "significant" novel of the past half-year. "Significant," of course, is one of those lazy words, but I suppose it means, with

reference to a novel, that the book makes some judgments that enable us to understand our times, their tensions and trends more vividly. If that be true, then Arthur Koestler's *The Age of Longing* (Macmillan. \$3.50) is significant. It is rather a conversation-tract than a novel, but it is gripping, mordant, observant and disturbing. Against a background of the French intelligentsia, it tells mainly the story of an American girl and a Soviet official. She has lost her faith, Catholic and otherwise, he has a fanatic's faith in the rightness of communism. His surety attracts her, there is a sordid love affair but she becomes disgusted and she and her father leave for the United States just, apparently, as the Soviets begin to move to swallow up France and what remains of free Europe. Another of those horrendous pictures, but quite profound in spots in its appraisal of the fact that it is precisely the spiritual vacuum in the soul of modern civilization that invites the onrush of communism.

YOU (ESPECIALLY) MIGHT LIKE

Catholic interests in fiction have been served but moderately in the period under scrutiny. Perhaps the best book to be recommended here is William Barrett's *The Left Hand of God* (Doubleday. \$3). Concerned with

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the theme of a young man who thinks he is forced under the circumstances to impersonate a Catholic priest, the story manages to avoid giving the impression that sacrilege is being condoned. (This, incidentally, is an important point in making judgment whether a book is "sacrilegious." The mere portrayal of sacrilege is not enough to merit such condemnation, any more than the portrayal of injustice makes a book *ipso facto* unjust, or the portrayal of any sin makes a book sinful—it all depends on whether or not sympathy is enlisted or condonement advocated.) Actually the deeper theme of this book deals with the fact that the imposter gets to realize, through his contact even with the non-existent sacraments he pretends to administer, the power and beauty and majesty of the real thing.

Miracle at Carville, by Betty Martin, edited by Evelyn Wells (Doubleday. \$3), treats another theme that might well tax the mastery of a superb novelist. This time it is faith that sustains a sufferer in the midst of one of the most horrendous afflictions God permits to scourge the race—leprosy. This is a fictionalized version of a real story. A young New Orleans girl, fastidious and gay, learns (and from her doctor-fiancé) that she is struck with the dread disease. She enters the leprosarium, finds romance with another doctor (the first fell away), and wins love and recovery. A crusading tone makes it somewhat polemical, but doesn't override the real inspiration.

A priest character who is rather unprepossessing at first but who grows into real heroism under the attack on his mission post by rampaging Indian hordes is met in *The Scarlet Sword*, by H. E. Bates (Little, Brown. \$3). It is a book full of violent action, and contains not a few inaccuracies in the matter of Catholic practises, but may appeal to those who like plenty of shooting even in a theme that aims at some spiritual message.

Three books slightly on the sentimental side, which may therefore (pardon the somewhat insulting causal connection) win more admiration from distaff-side readers, are *The Faith of Mrs. Kelleen* (Coward-McCann. \$3), by Katherine Mary Flannigan (the heroine of *Mrs. Mike*); *A Miracle for Caroline*, by Ruth Feiner (Coward-McCann. \$3.50); and *Mrs. Gailey*, by Sheila Kaye-Smith (Harper. \$3). The first concerns an Irish boy who makes quite an heroic trek across Ireland after his release from prison, in order to visit the grave of the mother who had never lost faith in his innocence, and to rejoin the sweetheart who had not forgotten him. Perhaps it's the very simplicity of the style that saves the story from being maudlin.

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The Feiner novel is the story of "what might have been." A young British matron, happily married but a little wistful that her life might have been shaped differently, petitions before a favorite statue of our Lady that she might live it all over again. In a dream (vision? flash-back?) she sees that it all might have been different—and worse. The technique of the time-sequence is a little confusing, and a slight taint of distaste creeps in since the Monsignor, a dear friend in real life, is recreated in the fantasy-sequence to be the villain, not a priest, to be sure, but still reminiscent enough of his clerical counterpart to be a little disquieting. An interesting attempt, but not a well-integrated story.

Kaye-Smith admirers will find in her latest novel almost all the old magic she possesses for descriptions of the English country-side, in this story in which the eccentric daughter of an aristocrat falls in love with a tenant-farmer and thereby brings tragedy to her family and others who are drawn into the melee. The skillfully unfolded plot, however, seems to hang too much on the threads of misunderstanding and coincidence. Sussex, and not story, is the book's greatest attraction.



Of interest to Catholics for the reverence with which it treats the humanity of Our Lord is *The Daughter of Jairus*, by Paul Fox (Little, Brown, \$2.75). It is, as the title indicates, a reconstruction of what might have happened to the young girl whom Christ raised from the dead. She meets Him again, is strangely and tragically caught in the drama of His life and that of Judas, comes to love Him with brave and foolhardy youthful devotion and to realize that He has some dynamic quality that is infinitely attractive. Her love for Christ is what makes her rise to an act of heroism when she will not betray where the enraged Apostles can find the hiding Judas. The book ends with Naomi facing condemnation as an outcast, but serene in her joy that she has done what her Master would have wanted. The book is of exquisite simplicity, and though it does not by any means tell all there is to tell of Our Lord, there is no irreverence in the limitations of the tale, which are, after all, the limitations of so many of the human eyes that witnessed the earthly life of the Incarnate Word.

Marvelous for anyone, Catholic or not, young (save in spirit) or not, is James Thurber's *The Thirteen Clocks* (Simon & Schuster, \$2.50). Here is a classic fairy-story that has everything—Prince and captive Princess, villain, dungeons, sinister spies—all fabled about in spare-nothing prose and illustrated by wonderfully humorous and sinister pictures. Try it for a treat in troubled times—if not for a treatment.

GOOD, IF LESSER, FARE

The books in the section that follows can all be recommended and will provide good entertainment, if not perhaps the spiritual nourishment offered to some extent by the books summarized thus far.

For good unvarnished adventure try *River of the Sun*, by James Ramsey Ullman (Lippincott, \$3.50), the story of a band of American scientists searching for a fabled river in Brazil, and the oil fields to which they hope it will lead them. The theme is, I suppose, that of man trying to find a basis for his own integrity in a chaotic world, but the intellectual content is minor. The descriptions of the jungle, of the Indians, of the thrills and escapes, however, are superb.

Other far lands are the scenes of the following books. James Norman Hall, of the famous Nordhoff-Hall *Bounty* team, has written a good adventure tale in *The Far Lands* (Little, Brown, \$3). It deals with an old South Seas legend, as it tells of the migration of one people in search of the Far Lands of peace, of their acceptance by another, and of a romance that violates tribal taboos. War and flight follow, and an idyllic ending that doesn't ring false.

A little fishing village in the Azores is the locale of *Home Is an Island*, by Alfred Lewis (Random, \$3), and the story concerns little Jose de Castro, his fisherman father, family and villagers. There is little of plot, but the chronicle of the simple life is warm and strong in the matter of family unity. Ruth Park follows up her recent *Harp in the South* with *12½ Plymouth Street* (Houghton Mifflin, \$3), a similar story of adolescent life in the Australian slums. There is a great deal of frank realism in the tale, but underneath a fine feeling of Christian compassion.

Wales is the setting of two good books, *Moulded in Earth*, by Richard Vaughn (Dutton, \$3) and *The Deluge*, by Ian Niall (Duell, Sloane & Pearce, \$3). The first is plotted quite traditionally along the lines of feuding families and the boy and girl of the opposing camps who fall in love, but it is rather remarkable for the sensitiveness of the descriptions and

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for some wild-and-woolly fight scenes. The other book is more ingenious in plot, centering its attention on the constant threat posed to the little village by the reservoir in the hills above. When it finally deluged the hamlet, it brought not only disaster to many, but solutions to the problems of some. Characters are well drawn and the suspense excellent.

Fantasy at its best will be found in *A Breath of Air* (Viking, \$3), in which Rumer Godden takes us to an idyllic South Seas isle to let us see the motherless daughter of the white lord of the island meet her first young white man and fall in love with him. The father, pretending to oppose the match, in reality fosters it. A note of social comment is woven in by the portrayal of the island natives yearning for the blessings of modern civilization.

A good historical novel, though it is made somewhat tough going by the narrator-technique (the narrator being Horace Walpole), is *Jenkins' Ear*, by Odell and Willard Shepard (Macmillan, \$3.50). It's the story of the war that went by that name, and which was a real, if minor war, that spread over three continents. There are sections in this novel that are as thrilling as anything in the *Bounty* trilogy.

FROM ENGLISH PENS

There is little space to summarize the following works of fiction that have come our way from the tight little isle. Most of the authors, however, are well known, and our readers will already be somewhat familiar with the themes of the authors' prelections.

Frank Swinnerton, for example, follows his usual bent of urbane, sane and delightfully-written family comment in *A Flower for Catherine* (Doubleday, \$3); Humphrey Pakington continues his delightfully amusing social satire in *Farewell to Otterley* (Norton, \$3), which follows William Washbourne through the austerity-time vagaries of a social class that is disappearing in Britain; Joyce Cary continues on his unpredictable course in *A Fearful Joy* (Harper, \$3) as he sketches with wit and some wisdom the career of Tabitha, amoral and self-absorbed at seventeen, religious and proper in her sixties; Elizabeth Taylor tells a good and sound love story in *A Game of Hide and Seek* (Knopf, \$3); Michael Home builds an interesting and somewhat unique family story around the hobby and profession of antique collecting in *Grain of the Wood* (Macmillan, \$3); and in *Ten Days of Christmas* (Macmillan, \$3.50), G. B. Stern tells how what started out to be a simple Christ-

mas entertainment turned into a family feud that resulted in many chastened hearts and better understanding.

One newcomer among British authors—at least in the field of fiction—is Duff Cooper, who may be remembered as former First Lord of the Admiralty. In *Operation Heartbreak* (Viking, \$2.50) he has written a superb little novel on the theme of a man who wanted to be a hero, missed both World Wars, but, by a strange quirk of fortune and irony, is buried at last on foreign shores with full military honors.

MINOR VIEWS OF U.S. LIFE

This handful of novels by American authors—and many more might be mentioned—comments on various aspects of our social life and problems, in minor vein but interestingly.

October Fire, by Eleanor Mayo (Crowell, \$3), follows what happened to people, their fears and hatreds and affection, through "a week of disaster in a peaceful Maine village," the disaster being a forest fire. Maine is again the locale of Ruth Moore's *Candlemas Bay* (Morrow, \$3), a family-saga type of novel ennobled by a magnificent character of a mother. A *State in Mimosa*, by Robert Tallant (Doubleday, \$3), is a frank plea for a humane attitude toward fellow human beings, couched in a story of the difficulties a Polish refugee couple found in getting accepted by the villagers. And the fluent Frances Parkinson Keyes delves into the frictions and the melding of various nationalities in Boston in a too-long but mildly interesting novel, *Joy Street* (Messner, \$3).

SOME NEAR-MISSES

It may seem a little ungracious to end on the disparaging note, but just to let you see that we have considered more novels than those commended in this survey, let me say that the following may appeal to you, though they fell short of the hopes that were entertained of them. Sinclair Lewis' *World So Wide* (Random, \$3) was definitely second-rate Lewis and strangely unconvincing in its old-hat lambasting of American babbity. Nevil Shute's *Round the Bend* (Morrow, \$3.50) fumbled its potentially deep spiritual theme by ambiguities about what Christianity really is. Budd Schulberg gave a brilliant picture of F. Scott Fitzgerald in *The Disenchanted* (Random, \$3.50), but a picture that was fundamentally false because it did not catch the fact of Catholicism's influence (small perhaps, but unmistakable) on the chronicler of the Jazz Age.

HAROLD C. GARDINER

Miscellaneous good things to end with

Of the many volumes of short stories that have enlivened the past six months, three can be called especially to your attention.

Richard Sullivan's *The Fresh and Open Sky* (Holt. \$3) is touched throughout with the author's "sure and subtle magic." The stories are quiet and rely on mood more than on incident, but they all give the impression that character has been unfolded before us compassionately, in a fashion to deepen our understanding of the lovable mystery human nature is.

The dry and salty humor and common sense that seem peculiarly the charismata of the Kentucky hill-folk color all the tales in *Clearing in the Sky*, by Jesse Stuart (McGraw-Hill. \$3.50). These stories are authentic views of a way of life that still runs on despite the transformation of the settlers into the settled.

Anne Fremantle has collected a group of masterpieces in *The Greatest Bible Stories* (Stephen Daye. \$3.50). Authors of many nationalities are represented, sometime by little-known stories, and the whole adds up to a finely imaginative comment on the New Testament, which is the inspiration of these lovely stories.

Literary studies and source material are well represented by the following. One of the most important books of the season was *Boswell's London Journal: 1762-1763* (McGraw-Hill. \$5), edited by F. A. Pottle. It is an almost indispensable prolog to the *Life of Samuel Johnson* and, in addition, a penetrating (if largely unconscious) account of the struggle between good and evil that engrossed Boswell.

Edmund Wilson is one of the most scholarly of American Critics. Those who appreciate thoughtful criticism will enjoy *Classics and Commercials* (Farrar, Strauss. \$5), in which Mr. Wilson not only plumbs the deeper waters of the literary art, but also has some amusing and consistently sound things to say about such topics as "The Boys in the Back Room," O'Hara, Cain *et al.*

The adventures of literary scholarship—forgeries revealed, MSS strangely and sometimes dangerously unearthed, sources stumbled upon and the like—are absorbingly described in *The Scholar Adventurers*, by Richard D. Altick (Macmillan. \$5). Most of the book concerns the legitimate activities of literary men, but there are racy accounts of scamps who have had the literary world buffaloed.

Fine poetry will be found in *From One World: Selected Poems from*

Spirit 1944-49, edited by John Giland Brunini (Devin-Adair. \$2.50); in *The Cliff's Edge*, by Eithne Tabor (Sheed & Ward. \$2); in *This Time the Tide*, by Rosamund Haas (Dutton. \$2.75); and particularly in *This Little While* (Macmillan. \$3), in which Fr. John W. Lynch poetically dramatizes the Passion of Christ, and in *Dialogue with an Angel*, by Sister Mary Jeremy, O.P. (Devin-Adair. \$2), in which there is a fine blending of high intellect and dynamic emotion.

H.C.G.

THE WORD

"And you too are to be My witnesses, you who from the first have been in My company" (John 15:27, Sunday after Ascension).

The lady journalist on the discussion panel was very impressive. She was in her stout forties, tastefully if expensively dressed, and seemed to enjoy the exaggerated esteem the other panel members were ladling out to her. When she got up to talk to the meeting she had a lot to say and said it extremely well. And she handled the subsequent discussion with charm as well as penetration and clarity.

But after the meeting she let me down. During the break-up chatter when I was trying to retrieve my coat and hat she found me, shook hands and asked me about myself. I told her what little there was to tell.

She laughed charmingly and pretended to be still interested. "I am a Catholic, Father," she said, "or I guess you would call me one. But I'm afraid I wouldn't agree with you on everything." The smile was still literally disarming. I said nothing.

"I just go to church when I'm in the mood. I don't get any good out of it when I'm not. And I think I'd definitely disagree with you about birth control."

There seemed still nothing to say. Nothing polite at least. So I made my excuses and went home. Under the noise of the New York subways, on my way home, I brooded on the incident. After all that brilliant logic and smooth savoir-faire, she had flatly contradicted herself in a simple matter of everyday, practical living. "I am a Catholic," she had said and in the same breath explained she was nothing of the sort.

In this Sunday's gospel Our Lord tells His apostles, and all of us, for that matter, that we are to be His "witnesses." Catholics, in other words, are people who testify or bear witness that Christ is God and that *all* of His teachings are true. The only consistent way to testify to the truth of someone's teachings is to follow them in

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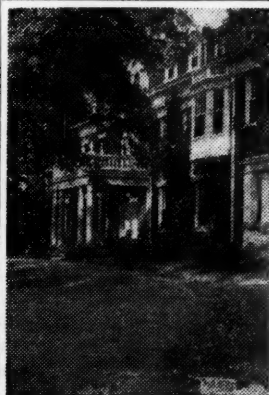
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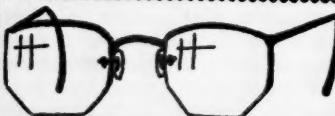
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your own life. Real Catholics do that, I know. They go to Mass on Sunday and fight divorce and birth control so that all the world may see that they believe and follow what Christ taught.

But are we, who feel we are good Catholics, always good witnesses? It was at this thought that I suddenly stopped brooding over the lady journalist's shortcomings and began to worry about my own, and yours too.

I realized that I could have stepped up to someone else and said: "I am a Catholic but very often I'm unkind to people and fairly selfish too." In all fairness he could have answered: "No, you're not quite a complete Catholic at all. You aren't a witness to Christ's charity and self-sacrifice."

So there I was, hoist with my own petard, convicted of my own charges.

I tell you all this because I have a suspicion that some of you, on examination, might notice similar shortcomings in yourselves. If so it may help to remember that being a Catholic doesn't just mean going along with the crowd in a general sort of way. It means becoming a full-time cooperator, a booster and protagonist of all the lines of action that the Church sponsors. It requires some progress in all the virtues Christ showed us in Galilee. It means we have to get to work and stay busy.

DANIEL FOGARTY, S.J.

THEATRE

A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN, as practically all literate Americans know, is the title of Betty Smith's novel that was an overnight sensation, and afterward enjoyed a long tenure in the best-seller list. Miss Smith, in collaboration with George Abbott, has now converted the story into a music drama, with a score by Arthur Schwartz and lyrics by Dorothy Fields. Mr. Abbott is also producer and director, receiving some help in the former function from Robert Fryer.

There are many things in the production that are worthy of praise and a few that may deserve censure. Among the latter is the big "comedy" scene in which a female character simulates the agony of parturition to convince her current "husband" that he has become a father. There are also lines in the lyrics contributed by Miss Fields—in "Love Is the Reason," for instance, and "He Had Refinement"—that lean close to the borderline that separates clean from the other kind of humor. But most of the comedy, by a wide margin, is as wholesome as hilarious.

The acting is something rather grandish. Shirley Booth is a special number as the promiscuous woman who calls all her "husbands" Harry, and she swings a rather fancy hoof in "Look Who's Dancing," one of the better songs in the show. The playbill is not too helpful in identifying characters, but I think it is Nathaniel Frey who is next to perfect as Miss Booth's dumb-cluck "husband" who is swindled into accepting a foundling as his natural son. Johnny Johnston is appealing as the wistful lover, and also as the husband who is loyal and devoted to his wife and daughter, wanting only the best for them, but is too addicted to strong drink to provide them with food, housing and other things necessary for decent living. As Katie, his physically frail but spiritually strong wife, Marcia Van Dyke's performance is eloquent in speech and gesture. The dignity and plausibility of the story rest on her fragile shoulders.

Jo Mielziner designed the precisely right sets and Irene Sharaff selected the period costumes. Both were good in their respective tasks.

My friends who have read the novel, and have also seen the stage story, tell me that the emphasis has been changed. They tell me that Francie is the central character in the novel. In the stage version of the story, however, Cissy, her hoydendish aunt, is the most conspicuous character. The change of emphasis hardly matters. The heart of the matter is a man's devotion to his wife and child and their love for him. The rest is an embroidery of melody and humor.

There are several songs in the show that will eventually make The Hit Parade and one of them may top it. The appealing "Make the Man Love Me" and the poignant "Growing Pains" are numbers that, in current argot, are tear-jerking, giving emotional members of the audience wet eyes and a catch in the throat. "Mine 'Til Monday" is rich in nostalgic humor that start a rush of memories to the older heads in the audience.

While isolated scenes are sprightly or humorous or melodious, intrinsically of slight importance, they are skillfully integrated in a moral drama of huge significance. Johnny Nolan, apparently a worthless man, had some intangible attraction that made his wife and daughter love him and forgive his delinquencies. He was a good man who always went wrong. His story, as enacted at the Alvin, is the picture of a man with good intentions without enough strength to live up to them.

His failure makes a good show—the best musical show I have seen this year.

THEOPHILUS LEWIS

FILMS

THE FIRST LEGION. Since some of my best friends are Jesuits, I approached with great interest and considerable trepidation a movie in which the action takes place in a Jesuit house of studies and most of the main characters are priests of the Society. I am sorry to report that while I appreciate an effort to bring to the screen a story concerned with spiritual values, much of *The First Legion* left me quite unhappy. The screen play, adapted by Emmet Lavery from his play of the same name, has to do with the effects on a Jesuit community of the alleged miraculous cure of one of its members.

In general the performances are excellent and the clerical portraits (by Charles Boyer, Leo G. Carroll, Walter Hampden, and others) are a wholesome antidote to the stock, "wily Jesuit" types of *Life* magazine's "Reformation" article and popular misconception. It seems to me, however, that Mr. Lavery has compromised his admirable purpose by getting several important points a little bit wrong.

His Jesuits appear excessively naive, both in their rebellious attitude towards the discipline of the Ignatian rule and in accepting as miraculous the cure of an illness which was established to be partially psychosomatic. They also seem strangely complacent in the face of the commercial atmosphere and the displays bordering on mass hysteria which are occasioned by the public announcement of the "miracle." The indictment of this disedifying spectacle is therefore left inappropriately to the apostate doctor (Lyle Bettger), who caused the incident in the first place in an effort to discredit religion. Certainly the author has invoked the seal of Confession as a dramatic device where in reality it would not apply. Finally, he has used as a symbol of faith a crippled girl (Barbara Rush) whose real cure is the climax of the picture but whose attitude up to that point seems more closely allied with the sin of presumption than with the virtue of faith. The picture is a sincerely intended affirmation of the validity of supernatural faith. About its merits and total effect there is bound to be a wide difference of opinion. *Adults* would do well to see it and make up their minds for themselves. (*United Artists*)

THE BRAVE BULLS. Hollywood, which cannot seem to avoid cycles on the same subject, now simultaneously unveils two pictures about bullfighting.

This one, already hailed in some quarters as a film masterpiece, finds producer-director Robert Rossen's highly individualistic screen style applied to Tom Lea's novel about a great bullfighter (Mel Ferrer) who loses his courage in the crush of severe personal disillusionment and eventually regains it. The picture is full of the cinematically effective sights and sounds which distinguish the naturalistic technique. In capturing the atmosphere of the bull-ring and conveying the impression that a matador's lot is not a happy one, it makes a stunning assault on the emotions. On an intellectual level, however, the technique breaks down. Thus the hero's relationship with his manager (Anthony Quinn) and with the girl he loves (Miroslava) is left unresolved, and the pair's abrupt re-

moval mid-way in the story seems a falsely melodramatic note. Still more fatal, this *adult* picture provides no adequate motivation for its hero's final conquest of fear. (*Columbia*)

THE BULLFIGHTER AND THE LADY is the frankly melodramatic *adult* story of a callow American athlete (Robert Stack) who takes up bullfighting as a lark and whose flippant attitude seriously offends Mexican sensibilities and ultimately causes a bull-ring tragedy before his eyes are opened and he redeems himself. The picture succeeds in making bullfighting and its important place in Latin-American culture a lot more intelligible north of the border than does its more pretentious competitor reviewed above. (*Republic*)

MOIRA WALSH

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CORRESPONDENCE

Farm subsidies

EDITOR: It seems that AMERICA is
adopting a false viewpoint on agricul-
ture (cf. 3/3, p. 634; 4/21, p. 63).

The farmer has no control over
prices. If the price is wrong, he still
has to sell. The businessman can in-
crease inventory by not selling at poor
prices; but farm produce must be sold
quickly, and livestock cannot be held
back very long.

The farmer has to pay increased
prices for fertilizer, feed, machinery
and the like. His operating expenses
are up, but there is little he can do
about prices. The businessman can
raise prices; the worker can go on
strike. There is no such recourse for
the farmer.

Let's have no more attacks on sub-
sidies for agriculture. Business and in-
dustry have subsidies in tariff protec-
tion. Labor has subsidies in social se-
curity and unemployment insurance.

CORTLANDT VAN WINKLE
Wapato, Wash.

*(Certainly grain-growers are protected
through Federal price supports. Cattle-
growers can restrict production, as
some do. We have no objection to farm
subsidies, where necessary. But what
kind, and how much?—Ed.)*

It's not all exploitation

EDITOR: After reading your editorial,
"Exploiting the 'wetbacks'" (AM.
4/7), the average reader must have
felt somewhat depressed. This is to
cheer him up a bit, at least as far as
California is concerned.

Far from being unwilling to pay the
60-cent minimum wage you mention,
the "greedy farmers" of California are
paying 82½ cents per hour to all field
labor, including "wetbacks." Generally
the farmer does not know or care
whether a Mexican is a "wetback" or
not. Practically all harvesting of crops
is done on piece work, and the money
earned is far greater than the hourly
rate mentioned—anywhere from \$10 to
\$25 a day.

Regarding housing, this has been
under the supervision of the State for
many years and is efficiently admin-
istered.

Of course there are other facets to
this problem, such as politics, propa-
ganda, the Mexican Government and
the labor unions.

GEO. S. DE LORIMIER
Castroville, Calif.

Wrong key

EDITOR: It is a source of confidence
to know that Father Parsons (AM.
3/24) took issue with the continually
growing muddled thinking which has
found expression in Dean Manion's
The Key to Peace. Why has this book
received favorable reviews from
Catholic sources?

I am an alumnus of the University
of Notre Dame, of which I am ex-
tremely proud. I regret that the Dean
of its School of Law has written such
a confused book.

(REV.) WILLIAM D. CURTIS
Rochester, Minn.

During my absence from the office
AMERICA published two interesting
letters suggesting that Loyola College
in Baltimore and Duchesne College in
Omaha actually taught "all students
the full panorama of the world (or at
least Western) history" (AM. 4/28).
Both correspondents cited me as hav-
ing said this "verged on the impossi-
ble" (AM. 4/14, "Feature X").

What I wrote was that "in expecting
a college to teach all students . . . in-
cluding American [history], his [Com-
missioner Murphy's] expectations
verged on the impossible." I knew
that many colleges teach many of
their students all Western history,
and that some even teach them
all world history. But I have never
heard of a college which does this,
including American history. It is not
clear from our correspondents that
either Loyola or Duchesne includes
American history for all students.

Even in regard to Western history,
do they require this course, for exam-
ple, of pre-medical students? Of stu-
dents in the department, let's say, of
business administration? How can a
freshman or sophomore study natural
science, English, a foreign language,
mathematics, religion, a social science
and world history, "including Ameri-
can"? Something has to give way. I
can think of many students whose
need of other subjects is so direct that
history has to give way. Teaching all
students not only world history but
also American history still seems to me
to verge on the impossible. R. C. H.

AMERICA receives many communica-
tions. So that more of our readers may
have an opportunity to express their
views, we urge correspondents to make
their letters as short as possible—say
150 words or less.—Ed.